

INSIDE

And they're off

The Iowa caucus eliminates one, leaves others bidding for presidency **6A**

Super Bowl special

When companies shell out high dollars for 30-second slots, it means it's Super Bowl time **3B**

<http://www.nwmissouri.edu/missourian>

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY

THE NORTHWEST Missourian



Presenting his majesty

Maryville prepares for the royal entrance of "The King and I" **4A**

Thursday, Jan. 27, 2000

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University schedules retreat for planning

By JOSH FLAHERTY
MANAGING EDITOR

Approximately 80 students, faculty and staff will take part in the Strategic Planning Council retreat from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday in the University Conference Center.

I'm excited about all the capital improvements that are being done on our buildings, so I don't want to see that stop.
ANNELE WEYMUTH
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

"This is one of the shortest ones we've ever had," Weymuth said. "Usually we have them all day, but knowing everything that's going on with the championship celebration we decided to keep it concise."

The retreat will begin with five-minute updates on the outlook of several key areas. Speakers will give a brief synopsis of the predictions in their areas of expertise.

Attendees will then break up into round-table discussions on each of the areas to determine three to five issues which the University should focus on for the next round of Mission Enhancement funding.

At the retreat, participants will also evaluate how well the University has accomplished its goals throughout the first round of Mission Enhancement funding.

"We will see where we go as we plan for the next round of Mission Enhancement," Provost Tim Gilmour said.

She said past retreats have proven successful and helpful in planning the future course of the University.

"I think that kind of a testament to that is that I've sent out all these invitations and I think I've only had six people tell me they're not planning on being there," Weymuth said.

Gilmour said he thinks higher education as a whole needs to work on several areas.

"We need, as a sector, to really focus on collaboration," Gilmour said. "Collaboration for serving new student markets. Collaboration for proving our utilization of technology and reaching new populations through technology. The big one is collaboration to improve the quality of teachers we graduate and to provide better services for teachers who are already in service and to keep them up to date and to help schools meet the shortages that they're experiencing."

Gilmour would also like to work on the containment of cost while still increasing the quality of Northwest.

Weymuth said she would like to see the University continue its physical improvements.

"I'm excited about all the capital improvements that are being done on our buildings, so I don't want to see that stop," Weymuth said.

Overall, Weymuth said the planning and implementation process will require teamwork.

"I think we all have to work together on this," she said.

By Jacob DiPietro
SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Although this is a "tight budget year," due to the Hancock Amendment, Northwest's funding for Mission Enhancement could be unaffected.

While most other regional university's operational budgets have been cut, Northwest's request for just under \$2.1 million dollars has not.

President Dean Hubbard said Mission Enhancement has been a great way for state schools to differentiate themselves.

"If the state wants to build on the strength of its institutions than that was the way to do it," Hubbard

said.

Hubbard, along with Vice President for Finance, Ray Courter and Russ Pinizzotto, dean of the Missouri Academy for Math and Science, went Jefferson City on Tuesday to testify to the House of Representatives Appropriations-Education and Public Safety Committee.

The committee is responsible for making budget recommendations, on higher education and public safety funding, to the House Budget Committee.

In his testimony, which is a chance for all university presidents to lobby the committee, Hubbard laid out the first phase of

Northwest's Mission Enhancement plan, which is in its final phase.

The three phases of the Mission Enhancement are the new Center for Information Technology in Education, which is the center that helps instructors create online classes.

The northwest Missouri Consortium, which is a collection of area schools, including the University of Missouri, that serve the area, and to continue to integrate the culture of quality in other university functions.

Hubbard said he was pleased with his presentation and thought the committee asked thoughtful

questions.

"I thought it went really well, I honestly did," Hubbard said. "Their body language, the questions they asked and the tone they asked them in. Of course the process has to play out. At this stage I'm happy."

However, one representative expresses some concern with the Missouri Academy for Math and Science.

Rep. Katherine Hollingsworth, D-Jefferson County, said she was concerned students of the academy, upon graduation, would leave the state for a more prestigious school.

"I have concerns about paying

for the first two years of college education for high schoolers for them to just go to MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) and never return to the state of Missouri," Hollingsworth said.

Since the academy has not graduated any students yet, Hubbard said he had no statistics about where graduates finish their degrees.

However, he did say studies show most students stay in their home state.

"We can tell from other states that have these programs," Hubbard said. "Students tend to come back to where their roots are."

Icy roads cause concern

By MARK HORNICKEL
EDITOR IN CHIEF
By VALERIE MOSSMAN
MANAGING EDITOR

Weekend car accidents shock Midwest and teach lesson about safety on the road

After a barrage of accidents Sunday, motorists are being reminded to buckle-up and drive carefully, especially when road conditions go awry.

Law enforcement agencies reported over 400 accidents in the Kansas City area Sunday after icy conditions turned highways into what some people called "a war-zone."

In all, 11 people died and 108 were injured in the accidents. On Interstate-29 alone, the Missouri Highway Patrol reported at least 50 accidents between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Sunday, including a deadly 24-car pileup on I-29 near Platte City that killed 10 people and left 42 others injured.

The pileup, which involved 19 cars and five semi-trucks, began when a 1991 Dodge lost control and crossed into the right lane, hitting a 1996 Kenworth tractor-trailer, according to the Missouri State Highway Patrol report. The wreck eventually turned into a disastrous fire when one of the trucks began leaking hydrochloric acid.

The fire burned for about an hour, melting some of the vehicles into a huge heap of twisted metal.

"It is tragic," said Romell Cooks, the Regional Administrator of National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. "Everything we do in our work to ensure drivers wear their seatbelts and drive safely is to prevent accidents like that."

The 24-car pileup was just one of five separate multi-vehicle accidents within a four-mile stretch of I-29.

Ironically, in April 1969, seven Northwest students were killed at the same spot as Sunday's 24-car crash.

Unlike Sunday's crash, the accident involved one car and did not occur because of bad weather. Instead, the accident occurred because of careless driving.

Walt Bodine, who was a young reporter at the time and covered the accident, said the car was traveling at a very high speed before smacking into a pillar on I-29.

"The wreck was late at night on some lonely road, and they were going faster and faster," Bodine said. "Everybody talks a little more quietly when something like that happens. What struck me when you looked at the seven that died was how terrible it was that we

knew and their seven parents didn't yet."

Cooks said the NHTSA teaches the three "p's"—preparation, protection and prevention—for making safe trips.

Preparing for the trip includes making sure your car is well maintained. Drivers should check their battery, tire tread and keep the windshield fluid stocked with non-freezing washer fluid. Other preparations should include carrying a flashlight, jumper cables, ice scraper and snow brush.

Take note of the route you choose. Cooks recommends avoiding routes with hills and bridges and to use snow routes because they are cleared first. Let others know what route you will take, how long it will take and at what time you leave, and drive slower.

Cooks also suggests going to a large empty parking lot such as a school parking lot and practice driving on ice. There you can learn to skid and work your brakes. Anti-lock brakes are meant to have pressure applied throughout the entire brake.

However, brakes without the anti-lock system are to be pumped during the brake.

"Control aggression," said Cooks. "Back off to allow extra space between you and other cars. If someone gets in your space, back off more. You will still get where you are going."

The second "p" is protection. Wearing your seatbelt, keeping children in their safety seats and keeping children 12 and under in the back seat will keep everyone safer, Cooks said.

The third "p" stands for prevention. It includes refraining from alcohol and drugs while operating a motor vehicle.

"No matter if dry, wet or winter, never drink and drive," Cooks said.

Slow down and keep eyes wide open for pedestrians. Pedestrians tend to blend in during the winter. Also avoid fatigue. Long trips on icy conditions keep the drivers tense and makes the trips even more tiresome.

"If you don't have to make the trip, don't make it," Cooks said

Car Accident Statistics

■ Injuries are reduced 60 percent when seatbelts are worn.
■ Fatalities are reduced 65 percent when seatbelts are worn.

■ * * * * * fatalities account for more than 90 percent of transportation-related fatalities.

■ In 1997, 41,967 people lost their lives in motor vehicle crashes—a decrease of 0.2 percent from '96.

■ The fatality rate per 100 million vehicle miles of travel in '97 was 1.7. The injury rate per 100 million vehicle miles of travel '97 was 134.

■ An average of 115 people died each day in motor vehicle crashes in 1997—one every 13 minutes.

■ Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for every age from 6 through 27 years old.

■ In 1997, 6 percent of speeding related fatalities occurred on roads that are not interstate highways.

—U.S. Department of Transportation

Hypnotist returns to Northwest, dazzles crowd



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE AHRENS/ CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Student volunteers laugh as they watch a movie on an overhead screen, one of Jim Wand's hypnotic suggestions at his show in Mary Linn Performing Arts Center Tuesday night. Residence Hall Association sponsored the act.

Students persuaded into acting like Jedi Knights and wrestlers when nationally-known entertainer puts them under his spell

By DEBBIE BACON
NEWS EDITOR

Jedi Knights and professional wrestlers from the World Wrestling Federation made their debut in the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center Tuesday night, under the influence of hypnotist Jim Wand.

Wand entered the stage carrying a neon green light saber, which was later used as a focal point of concentration as he placed 18 Northwest students under hypnosis.

Before beginning the show, Wand reassured the audience that those on stage would still be aware of everything going on around them.

However, Wand warned students of the usual behavior that they experienced under hypnosis tended to be enhanced 20 to 30 times.

"There are some people out there who will do anything at anytime," Wand said.

To begin the show, Wand made the students under

hypnosis think they were Jedi Knights with special powers. One power they possessed was the ability to see with their eyes closed. The next activity empowered them to feel and respond to music.

Wand told those under hypnosis the music would first make their feet happy, and before long all 18 individuals were out of their seats and dancing.

Wand let the volunteers experience other things as a group, before he started to single out individuals to perform specific tasks.

He let the 18 volunteers watch a 40-foot motion picture screen overhead, and witness the near collision of their grandmother's new puppy with a semi, among others.

Up until this point the audience was getting into

Wand, continued on page 5A

REVIEW & PREVIEW

2A Thursday, Jan. 27, 2000 THE NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

<http://www.nwmissouri.edu/missourian/>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THURSDAY

- Rush event — Spaghetti dinner and bowling
- 5 p.m. at the Phi Sigma Kappa house
- Casino and Mocktail night
- 7 p.m. at Delta Sigma Phi house

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MONDAY

- Women's basketball at Southwest Baptist University
- 5:30 p.m., Bolivar
- Men's basketball at Southwest Baptist University
- 7:30 p.m., Bolivar
- Alcoholics Anonymous
- 6 p.m., Methodist Church
- AI-A-Non
- 6 p.m., Methodist Church

FRIDAY

- Sigma Kappa's fifth birthday on campus
- University Players present "Shakespeare Tonight"
- 7:30 p.m. ML PAC Studio Theater, \$1 tickets
- Maryville Middle School Science Fair
- 3:30 to 6 p.m., Maryville Middle School gym

TUESDAY

- Narcotics Anonymous
- 6 p.m., Agape house at First United Methodist Church
- Student Senate Meeting
- 7 p.m., Golden Hall 3500
- ABC Hall of Fame

28

SATURDAY

- C-BASE Test
- Maryville Middle School Science Fair
- 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Maryville Middle School gym
- Women's basketball at Missouri Southern State College
- 1:30 p.m., Joplin
- Men's basketball at Missouri Southern State College
- 3:30 p.m., Joplin
- Football Championship Celebration
- 1 to 4:30 p.m., Bearcat Arena

WEDNESDAY

- Last date to drop a first-block course
- Women's basketball vs. Emporia State University
- 5:30 p.m., Bearcat Arena
- Men's basketball vs. Emporia State University
- 7:30 p.m., Bearcat Arena
- Alcoholics Anonymous
- 6 p.m., Margaret Davidson Complex
- AI-A-Non
- 6 p.m., Margaret Davidson Complex

SUNDAY

- Super Bowl
- 5 p.m. Titans vs. Rams, ABC

30

THURSDAY

- "The King and I"
- 7:30 p.m., ML PAC
- Bloodmobile
- 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Fellowship Hall of United Methodist Church on 102 N. Main Street, Maryville

3

Flipping over the Royals



PHOTO BY MIKE RANDELL/CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Austin Mozier, a fourth grade student at Eugene Field Elementary school, is flipped upside-down by Kansas City Royals mascot "Sluggerr." The Royals caravan was brought to Maryville Jan. 20 to urge young students to stay in school and not to use drugs. "Going city to city, you lose touch (with the kids). Jay Witasick, Royals starting pitcher, said, "It's tough for the kids to get close at the games; we mostly see adults. This is a way for us to see kids, sign autographs and answer questions."

MARYVILLE

Worlds of Fun will begin 7-city audition tour

Worlds of Fun will begin their seven-city audition tour at 3 p.m. in Charles Johnson Theater Feb. 2.

Worlds of Fun is looking for talented singers and dancers to perform in live shows, individuals to make park appearances as costumed characters and stage technicians to work behind the scenes.

Singers should prepare one verse and the chorus of two songs. One should be up-tempo, and the other should be a ballad.

Dancers should perform a jazz routine lasting no longer than two minutes and sing one song.

A cassette deck and piano will be provided, but performers must provide their own accompaniment. A capella auditions will not be accepted.

Résumés for costumed characters and stage technicians will be accepted at the audition or can be

mailed to Live Entertainment Auditions, Worlds of Fun, 4545 Worlds of Fun Avenue, Kansas City, Mo. 64161. All applicants must be 16-years-old by May 1. For more information call (816) 454-4545, Ext. 1015.

Blood drive scheduled Feb. 3 at local church

The Community Blood Center has scheduled a blood drive 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Feb. 3 at the First United Methodist Church in the fellowship hall.

Blood donors need to be at least 17 years old, weigh more than 110 pounds and be in good health. Donors will need to bring identification and a mini-physical will be performed to ensure donors are healthy. Temperature, blood pressure and hemoglobin will be tested.

In addition, a cholesterol testing will be done on each donation and the results will be mailed to the donor in four to six weeks.

One pint of blood can help as

many as three local hospital patients. The Community Blood Center must collect at least 480 pints of blood per day to meet the needs of the area.

Call Carol Jean Osborn at 562-TWOS to sign up or for more information.

NORTHWEST

Student Senate changes bylaws, donates money

In its meeting Tuesday night, Student Senate allocated \$500 to the Intrafraternity Council.

The organization originally requested \$1,500 from the financial affairs committee to pay a total bill of \$2,500 for a guest speaker.

After discussing the request with IFC, the financial affairs committee decided to offer the organization \$350, one-third of the remaining cost.

When presented at the Student Senate meeting, Sen. Stacie

McLaughlin suggested the amount be increased to \$500, which was passed with a vote.

The policies committee also proposed a change to Student Senate's bylaws. The change suggested each vice president of Student Senate committees would be referred to as chairpersons and each committee would need to select a chairperson to coordinate all activities of that committee.

Additionally at that meeting, the Middle Eastern Student Association was voted to be a recognized student organization. MESA meets at 5 p.m. Thursdays in Golden Hall, Room 1600.

Meeting planned for future student teachers

All students planning to student teach during Fall 2000 should attend a meeting at 4 p.m. on Feb. 10 at the Conference Center.

Registration will begin at 3:30 p.m. Students must be admitted to the Professional Education program in order to receive a packet.

Students perform scenes from Shakespeare's plays

The University Players will present "Shakespeare Tonight" at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the Studio Theater at the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center.

The student production will recreate several scenes from 10 of William Shakespeare's comedies and tragedies that involve relationships between young people and are parallel to many of today's relationships.

The play is adapted by Dan DeMott.

Tickets for the play are \$1 and are only available at the door. Because of limited seating, people are encouraged to arrive 30-45 minutes before the show.

For more information, contact DeMott at 562-3139.

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Required Student Outcomes Assessments

Northwest Missouri State University Spring 2000

Don't wait until the last minute; it may affect your ability to pre-register. Choose the time most convenient to your schedule.

First Semester Senior: Testing Schedule—Senior Assessments will start precisely on the hour. Seating is limited for each administration. For testing locations check our web site at... http://www.nwmissouri.edu/~oaia/aia_assess_APtable.html

Thursday, February 3
7 a.m. - 8 a.m.
8 a.m. - 9 a.m.
9 a.m. - 10 a.m.
10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.
1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
3 p.m. - 4 p.m.
4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
6 p.m. - 7 p.m.
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturday, February 5
9 a.m. - 10 a.m.
Monday, February 7
7 a.m. - 8 a.m.
8 a.m. - 9 a.m.
9 a.m. - 10 a.m.
10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
3 p.m. - 4 p.m.
4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
6 p.m. - 7 p.m.
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

First Semester Junior: Local Survey—Come to the TDC, Room 372, Ad Bldg. anytime beginning Thursday, February 3rd from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday through Friday to take this 20 minute survey. The survey must be completed by Monday, March 13th, 2000.

Talent Development Center

Administration Bldg, Rm. 372

Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

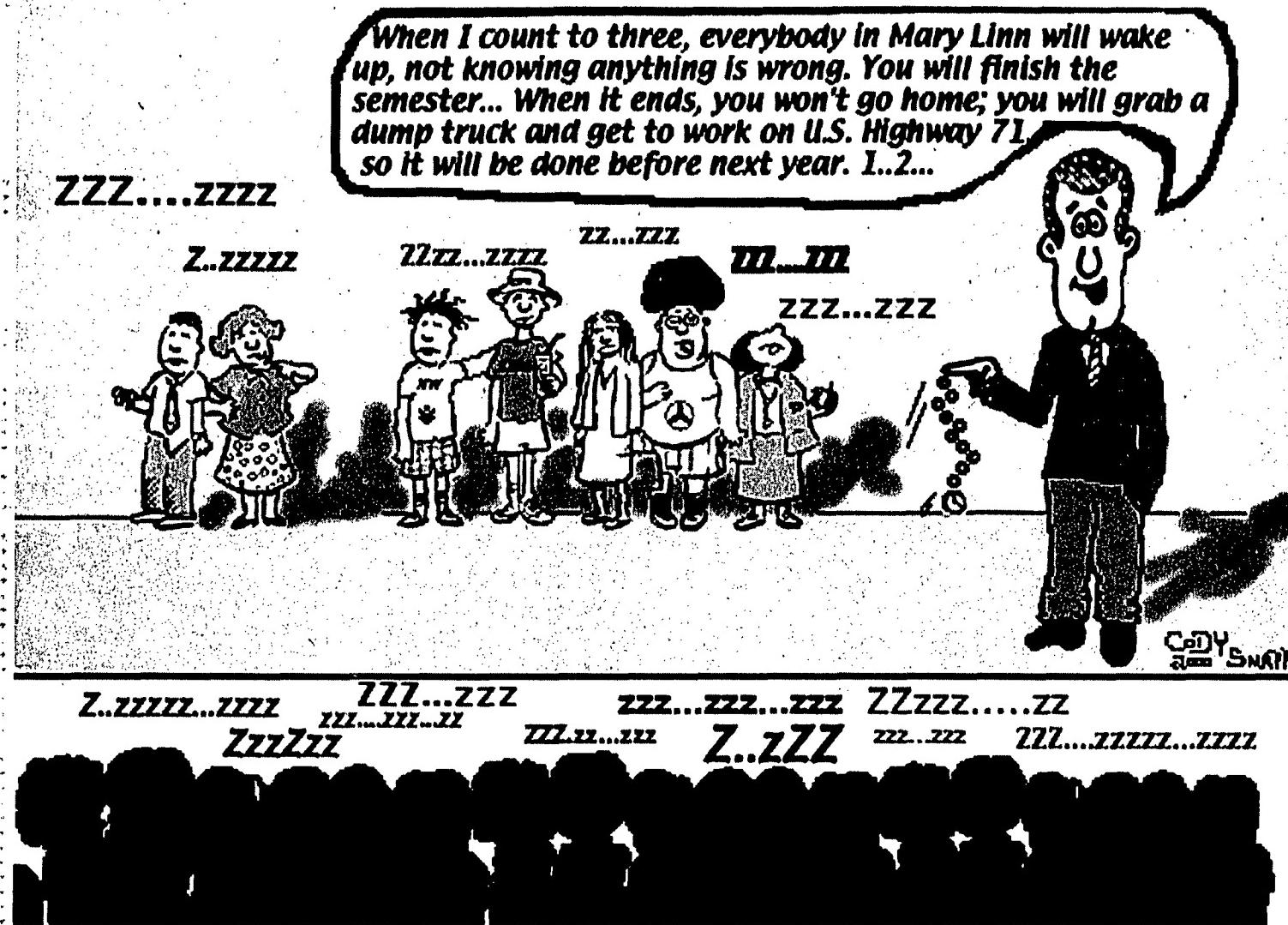
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VIEWS & OPINIONS

<http://www.nwmissouri.edu/missourian/>

THE NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN Thursday, Jan. 27, 2000 3A

THE REAL REASON JIM WAND CAME TO NORTHWEST



MY VIEW

Flag represents immoral time

MICHAELA KANGER
ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Our country stands for freedom. We do not need a flag that represents the opposite of what America stands for outside an office that runs part of our country.

I think some of the people in South Carolina are a bit confused. They seem to be under the dilution that the Confederate flag, which represents a time when racism ran rampant, needs to be displayed at the South Carolina Capitol building.

Well, it might be a part of history, but it should not have anything to do with our modern day government. It belongs in a museum along with all the other items in our country is history, not at the statehouse.

Let's take a look at why South Carolina put it up in the first place. In 1962, they decided to use the flag in reaction to sit-ins and court decisions relating to integrating the South. This was to protest against the civil rights movement. The south was using the flag for basically the same reason that it was used in the Civil War.

Yet today, some South Carolina residents say they think it should fly over the statehouse to represent their relatives who fought in the Civil War.

don't think so. It just represents a time when slaves were thought of as possessions and not people. They might as well put up a Ku Klux Klan flag. It would serve the same purpose.

If they want the Confederate flag somewhere to remember their relatives, they can hang a picture in their living rooms. They can wear shirts, post signs in their yard or make bumper stickers that say they idolize the Confederate flag. There are plenty of other ways they can remember their ancestors. However, they should do these things in their own homes, not in a place of government business.

Everyone does have their own freedoms that are stated in the constitution. Therefore, they do have the right to put up the flag in their own homes.

Our country stands for freedom. We do not need a flag that represents the opposite of what America stands for outside an office that runs part of our country.



Michaela Kanger is the Assistant Photography Editor for the Northwest Missourian. She can be contacted at [photograph@journalist.com](mailto:mk@journalist.com) or 562-1224.

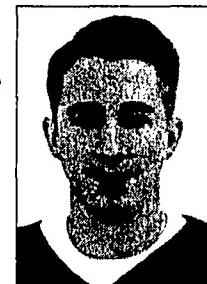
YOUR VIEW

Do you wear your seatbelt, why or why not?



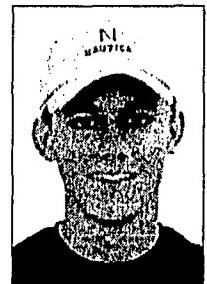
"Yes, because all the crazy stuff you hear about people dying."

Brian Howard
Physical Education and recreation major



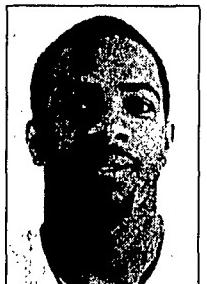
"Yes, the only reason why I do is because that was how I was raised."

Matt Spina
Computer Management Systems major



"Yes, but only on the highway, not in town."

Mike Vonnahme
Accounting major



"Yes, for safety. It's a habit I have because my family taught me."

Marion Morris
Psychology major



"Sometimes I wear them on long trips."

Ryan Urban
Business management major

(U-WIRE) CLEMSON, S.C. — Elian Gonzalez is a 6-year-old Cuban boy who recently lost his mother. His extended family and his father are fighting over who gets to have custody of him. He also happens to be at the center of a huge political battle that stems from America's long-running hatred of Fidel Castro.

There have been riots over him in Miami, and U.S. government officials are afraid that making the wrong decision about the boy's fate will upset an already strained relationship with Havana.

That is a lot for a boy of 6 to deal with.

It is amazing how a custody dispute that should have been resolved over a month ago has turned into the centerpiece for several political agendas. Unless proven to be an unfit parent, Elian's father should get immediate custody and Elian should be sent back to Cuba. U.S. immigration authorities have already ordered the boy's return to his father in Cuba.

Yes, it is unfortunate that the government has to send him back to a country whose political system it finds to be abhorrent. However, this is not a case for political asylum. The only reason he was on that boat was because his parents are divorced and he was living with his mother. He is 6. I am pretty certain that he does not understand the controversial issues.

What he does understand, however, is that a lot of people seem to really want him. Ever since the early-morning hours of Nov. 25, when his mother drowned on their way to a new life in America, his life has been a merry-go-round of DisneyWorld, parades and endless attention and affection. The attention is what is going to be potentially damaging to this child, because eventually the public will get bored with his predicament and it will move on to something else. Authorities have already decided that the best place for Elian is with his father; he will eventually be sent back to Cuba and things will return to normal.

What will this teach him? Will he be fooled into believing that all of the controversy is really because American citizens want him that badly? It is sad when anyone gets used to further another's cause, but it is especially sad when the victim is a small child who just lost his mother in a very traumatic way.

I do not presume to have a solution for the mess that is the U.S.-Cuba relationship. I am also not making any judgements about the thousands of Cuban citizens who try desperately to get into this country each year. I have no idea what it is like to want to escape your homeland so badly that you would risk your life crossing a body of water in a small boat. I simply think that Elian's treatment since he arrived in this country has been dishonest and damaging. He is merely a pawn for all of the political groups who have something to say about Castro and the Cuban government or the United States' immigration laws.

CORRECTION

In the Jan. 13 issue of The Northwest Missourian, Matt Abele and Tucker Woosley were listed as senior long distance runners, however, Abele is a senior long jumper and Woosley is a junior shot putter. The Missourian regrets the error.

THE NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

The Northwest Missourian is an independent learning environment providing the best source of information and advertising for our community.

Questions? Comments about The Northwest Missourian? Story idea? We would like to hear from you. If you don't find the person you need on the right, please contact Josh Flaharty or Valerie Mossman at 660-562-1224, by fax at 660-562-1521, by e-mail at NorthwestMissourian@hotmail.com or write us at 800 University Drive, Wells Hall 8, Maryville, MO 64468.

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We want to hear your views on this issue and others. Call the Missourian newsroom at 562-1980 or mail your letter to the editor to:

The Northwest Missourian
Wells Hall 8
800 University Drive
Maryville, MO 64468

Letters are limited to 250 words due to space constraints. All letters must be signed; students should include their major. The Missourian reserves the right to edit all letters.

School teacher tames Siam King, finds love

By KATIE WAHLERT
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The King is coming to town but this time it is in Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II's show. The "King & I" will begin at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 3 in the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center.

The musical is based on the book "Anna and the King of Siam" by Margaret London. It is the true story of Anna Leonowens, an English woman who has come to Siam to teach the King's many children. In the process, she also educates the somewhat barbaric but inquisitive King, and the two grow to love each other. The show's subplot concerns the doomed lovers Tuptim and Lun Tha.

It carries multiple themes including East vs. West, "civilization" vs. "barbarism," despotism vs. democracy and man vs. woman.

The "King & I" first opened March 29, 1951 and has won numerous awards including five Academy Awards and five Tony Awards for best musical, best actress, best supporting actor, best scenic designer and best costume designer.

Among the highly enthusiastic reviews was the Daily News which called it "an intricate and expert piece of show-making in which the story comes first—and the fine sets, the glorious costumes, the splendid cast and the music are subordinate to this story."

Rodgers and Hammerstein have also created other musicals including "Oklahoma!", "Show Boat", "Carousel", "Allegro", "South Pacific", "Me & Juliet", "Pipe Dream", "Flower Drum Song", "The Sound of Music", "State Fair" and "Cinderella".

Collectively, the Rodgers and Hammerstein musicals have earned 26 Tony Awards, 15 Academy Awards, two Pulitzer Prizes and two Grammy Awards.

Tickets for the "King & I" may be purchased prior to the show at the Student Services desk located in the Administration Building or at the box office the night of the show. Tickets are \$18 for orchestra, \$16 for balcony, and \$14 for children ages 3 to 13.



PHOTO COURTESY OF "THE KING AND I"
Tuptim, (Diane Phelan) and Lun Tha (Fausto Pineda) sing "We Kiss in a Shadow" from Rodgers and Hammerstein's "The King & I." The musical is based on the book, "Anna and the King of Siam," by Margaret London. It will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 3 at the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center.

Board proposes tax, approves additions to April ballot

By DEBBIE BACON
NEWS EDITOR

The Maryville R-II School District Board unanimously approved the addition of a 25-cent tax levy Monday onto the April ballot.

Superintendent Gary Bell said the general purpose of the levy is to generate funds for general operating purposes, with the intent to raise the base pay for teachers' salaries and put more money into technology.

The proposed levy will raise the

base pay for teachers from \$20,700 to \$21,500, if passed. In addition, the existing technology fund will increase \$50,000.

Bell said the funds the District receives from the state are not in their favor.

"We're going to have to ask our local patrons for money," Bell said. "What we can afford is what we recommend... It has to be done locally."

Bell indicated two purposes are behind the levy. First, to be competitive by making the District attrac-

tive, and to make the teaching profession attractive in general.

"We've got to be competitive," Bell said. "We've got to make it attractive to young people that this is a good profession to go into."

He said he thinks young people are drawn to other professions which offer higher salaries.

Board member Jim Redd supported the levy, but said he felt a 25 cent increase may not be enough.

"Schools are a people business

and we've got to have good people," Redd said.

Board member Ray Counter supports the need of the District to be competitive.

"If we're not competitive, we're setting ourselves up for some serious problems," Counter said.

He said the District is competitive at the local level, but at the conference level, Maryville is not. Counter said some districts at the conference level offer a base pay of \$24,000 to \$26,000.

Bell said he is comfortable with

the amount of the levy because the District has initiated new programs and maintained small class sizes over the years.

The wording of the levy passed with a simple majority. Roger Prokes was the only board member to oppose the levy due to its wording.

"My negative vote was purely a technical one," Prokes said. "The board can only commit themselves on a year-to-year basis."

However, Prokes said he agrees with the intent of the levy.

Quality card available on Northwest Web site soon

By JASON DAVIDSON
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Students will soon be able to fill Culture of Quality cards out online. The system is currently available, but many students are unaware of that option.

"I'm not saying it's a failure, but we just didn't get the numbers we wanted, so what we're going to do to get it online is create a new e-mail address," Northwest President Dean Hubbard said.

The Culture of Quality program began in 1987, and comment cards have been available since the '93-'94 school year, Hubbard said.

The purpose was to provide an easy channel for a student or faculty member to draw attention about any concerns they have.

Other administrators agree. Provost Tim Gilmour said the online system will allow a quicker turnaround.

"We will be able to respond to the comments in a more timely manner and have a better sense of what opportunities for improvement are available," Gilmour said.

Hubbard cites the parking behind Roberta Hall and new clocks in the Student Union as evidence of the system in action. Hubbard said he will still respond to all cards.

"I try to go the extra mile, this is a way we go about improving," he said.

Gilmour said the continued improvement of the University shows the system is working.

"I think we can improve the quality of this process by shortening the cycle time from beginning to resolution," Hubbard said.

When the new system is ready, it will be well advertised and stickers will be placed on the comment card receptacles.

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Furniture lasts decades within family

By DALLAS ACKERMAN
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

J.B. Cummins still remembers the days when he would go to the Chicago Market with his father to purchase furniture to bring back to Maryville for the family's store.

That was in the late 1920s, but one thing has remained constant. The Cummins family remains in the furniture business.

Cummins Furniture has served local residents since 1919 when the family took controlling interest of the only store in existence. After serving four years in the service as a pilot in World War II, J.B. returned to Maryville to take over for the man that started it all, his father.

"This business was something I had just grown up in," he said. "I worked for my dad in high school and then in college, so I knew what the business was about."

J.B. managed the store up until 1980 when he decided to retire. The store would continue though, as his son Chris took over and continued to run the day-to-day operations. Chris, like his father, has grown up in the business, working at the store while in high school and college. He said his family has followed some rules to help them be successful.

"Just treat people the way you want to be treated," he said. "I never worry when somebody pulls up to our front door that they aren't happy with the service we have given them."

After spending over 30 years in the business, J.B. Cummins has seen a lot when it comes to the competition of selling furniture. Currently he notices a gimmick that has come about more as the years have gone by.

"So many businesses nowadays seldom advertise furniture," J.B. said. "It's more terms they advertise than anything else."

J.B. has been out of the business for 20 years, but that does not mean he has lost touch. With his house being connected to the store itself, he can be seen making a visit in the store at least once a day.

"I've got to have somewhere to loaf," he said. "If I wouldn't, my wife would go nuts."



Cummins Furniture has served residents since 1919. Chris Cummins said when he retires, he does not know if someone in his family will keep the tradition alive. "Right now I think my kids are interested in other things," he said. "But I do know I'll keep doing this until I'm no longer able to serve the people of this community."

Wand, continued from page 1A

Marty Wolff, speech and theater major makes his appearance as Ricky Martin singing "Livin' La Vida Loca" while under the hypnosis by Jim Wand Tuesday night. Later in the evening, Wand also had Wolff thinking that he was Richard Simmons and had him try to get the crowd into an exercise routine. PHOTO BY CHRISTINE AHRENS /CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER



the show and laughing, Wand's next move dropped the jaws of many in the crowd.

He selected a handful of the females under hypnosis and convinced them they had just been given 20 c.c. of macho male hormones.

Wand asked the ladies, who now thought they were professional wrestlers, to introduce themselves and tell the audience their favorite move.

Wand thought he would protect himself by adding the "wrestlers" were not able to head-but anyone on stage. Earlier in the evening he told the audience he had been left with a busted lip when he performed this act in Indiana near the end of December.

Although Wand escaped being head-butted, he did not escape having a few moves tried on him.

Perhaps the most frightening for Wand was when Erin Mack, who believed she was Stone Cold Steve Austin, picked up Wand to

demonstrate her best move. The audience gasped as Mack left Wand dangling in the air momentarily.

After the show, Wand said at the time he was not too worried.

"I know that usually they won't hurt me," Wand said. "It is very seldom, but once in awhile I get hurt. I know that anytime something like that happens the audience loves it."

Wand said he had the power to stop Mack, but opted not to.

"I just let it go to see where it would go," Wand said. "I could have stopped it, but I just let it go. I knew she wasn't going to hurt me, or at least I didn't think she was."

After the "wrestlers" took their seats, the crowd witnessed an appearance by Marty Wolff as Ricky Martin, singing "Livin' La Vida Loca" in e-minor and a visitor from Mars, Elizabeth Keane, a psychology/sociology major.

Wand said the students on stage were full of energy.

"That was a very animated group," Wand said. "There was a lot of what I call emotionally-charged people on stage."

Wand explained there were visual and kinesthetic people on stage.

"The kinesthetic people and the visual people are always very animated, and we had a big supply of kinesthetic (people)," Wand said.

Wand said he enjoyed the audience as well.

"I thought the audience was really into it," Wand said.

He said he tried to get a feel from the audience to see if he should change gears at any point. He said during the Ricky Martin performance he was watching the community members in the crowd to see how far he could take things.

"As long as it didn't go beyond that point, I feel it was still tasteful," Wand said.

Wand's performance was sponsored by the Residence Hall Association.

Students learn life lesson with simulated babies

Area schools work together with Life's Walk organization

BY SARAH Y. JOHNSON
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Incessant crying, 3 a.m. feedings and an additional pile of homework is what some Maryville Middle School students will be faced with next week.

Diana Johnson, Maryville Middle School family and consumer science teacher, is working with students and introducing them to the responsibilities and obligations associated with teen pregnancy.

The middle school has teamed up with the local organization, Life's Walk, to educate young individuals about teen pregnancy.

"I think that it's very educational for students," Johnson said. "They get to see what the experience might be like. When you experience something, what you learn is more effective."

Life's Walk Curriculum Coordinator, Cindy LoConto said the program was formed in 1995 to address teen pregnancy and parenting needs in Atchison, Gentry, Harrison, Holt, Nodaway and Worth counties. It is a longitudinal study linked with Northwest that will determine after several years if teen pregnancy has fallen within the six county area.

"It's a wonderful program," LoConto said. "We're an abstinence-only curriculum and we work with students to improve their critical thinking skills. We're a comprehensive program that incorporates parent-child communication combined with a simulated parenting experience for the teen."

The project consists of students caring for simulated babies for a two-day period. The computerized babies record proper and improper caring techniques and are programmed to cry every three to four hours, sometimes up to 20 minutes. To quiet the crying, students are required to insert a key into the baby's back for an undetermined amount of time.

The students are required to take the babies to school and to provide carriers and other items needed in caring for the infant. Throughout the two-day parenting project, students write in journals describing their reactions to their new roles as parents.

In addition to the simulated babies, there is a 15-day curriculum that is studied. Students are taught a variety of things including prenatal care, nutrition, finances, sexually transmitted diseases and certain consequences associated with teen pregnancy.

Johnson said most students look forward to the project, but by the time the 48 hours are up, the students are ready to give up parenting.

The project's primary goal is to decrease the rate of pregnancy among teen-age girls. Studies show the rate has been decreasing. Johnson said the program reaches children and teaches them things they didn't know.

"I think a program like this could be having an effect," Johnson said.

Incessant crying and 3 a.m. feedings, perhaps as a teenager, those are thoughts well worth thinking over.

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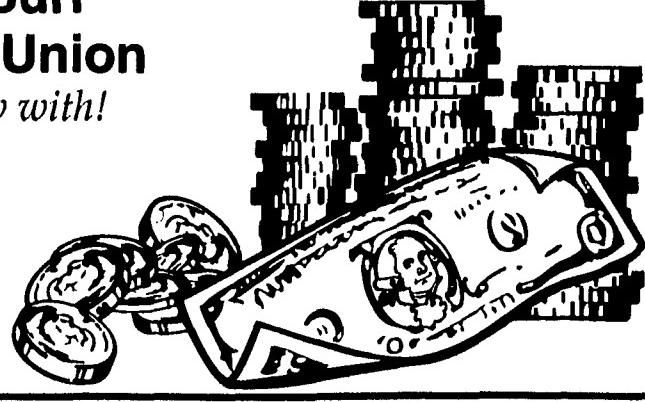
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Gore, Bush favorites in Iowa caucus

By KATIE WAHLERT
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

"I will never forget that it all started right here. Those are the words of presidential hopeful George W. Bush in reference to the Iowa caucus Monday night."

"I want your votes and I'm gonna work hard to earn your trust and your confidence," Bush said in his speech. "I will swear to not only uphold the law of the land, I will swear to uphold the honor and the dignity of the office to which I have been elected, so help me God."

Other candidates, like Bush, addressed the media from various locations in Des Moines shortly after the results from the caucuses were released.

Monday night's results placed George W. Bush as the front runner for the republican party with Steve Forbes in second and Alan Keyes in third.

On the democratic platform Vice President Al Gore remained front runner against Bill Bradley.

The nation's first caucus has been held in Iowa for the last three decades and can be a make-or-break night for some candidates. It tells national observers how well candidates are doing with grassroots Americans.

While Iowa plays host to the first caucus, New Hampshire gets the first primary, held on Tuesday, in which republicans and democrats go to the polls to nominate candidates for office.

The caucuses, also referred to as the most basic level of the democratic process, are open to anyone of voting age by Nov. 7, the date of the presidential election.

The caucus sites are based on party preference — democrat or republican.

The republican participants vote by secret ballot, whereas the democratic participants first break into "preference groups." According to the *Des Moines Register*, based on the size of the groups, an estimate of the delegates to the state convention is reported to the media.

Registration may be done at the caucus site where a person may also change his or her party claim. If you are registered independent, but choose to go to a democratic caucus you can change your affiliation for the night.

The participants discuss what they want to see on the party platform and elect delegates to county conventions, who, in turn, elect delegates to district and state conventions where national convention delegates are selected, according to the *Des Moines Register*.

The caucus is important because it is a legitimate test of how well the candidates are doing, according

to the *Des Moines Register*. The appointment of local party leaders and activists also are an important first step in picking presidents.

For Iowa State University microbiology major Aljenor Gilchrist, attending the caucus is like a breath of fresh air, allowing her voice to be heard.

"There are a lot of issues that I care about, but I am most concerned with health care and the character (of the candidate)," Gilchrist said. "I think it's cool to show what we think."

Even students that are not eligible to vote take interest in the caucus.

Sooho Lee, a Korean political science student at Iowa State, said the differences between the political systems of Korea and the United States interest him.

Lee, who has been here for two years, said he is very interested in the caucuses and primaries. In Korea, citizens are not allowed to discuss presidential candidates with neighbors. It is a one-time vote. Lee also said youth in Korea seem to be more involved in the political process.

"(The United States') politics are very unique," Lee said. "You have the right to choose and say what you want about the candidates."

PHOTO BY MARJIE KOSMAN/CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

the issue. Gore won the Democratic caucus with 63 percent of the vote. In an interview with the *Des Moines Register*, Gore distanced himself from Bill Clinton. "Any organization takes on the character of its leader over time," Gore said. "And since I'm a different person, it would be a very different administration." Gore emphasized reforming agricultural policy, the environment and family policies.

Students who were not previously involved in the political process turned out also.

Audrey Meyer, sociology major from Iowa State, said she never used to care about politics.

"I didn't think it was worth it until Bill Bradley came along," Meyer said. "That's what brought me out. I want to help (Bradley) out."

Only 13 states hold caucuses. The remaining 37 hold primaries. Missouri's primary will be March 7.

For more information on the 2000 presidential candidates visit <http://www.vote-smart.org>.



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PUBLIC SAFETY

Jan. 20

A Maryville officer assisted Liquor Control at an establishment in the 300 block of North Market. Summons were issued to Amanda Scott, 20, Maryville, for knowingly lending or permitting another to use their drivers license and to Maren K. Hoegh, 18, Maryville, minor in possession and under 19 in a bar.

In the 1200 block of North Main, Wilbur L. Adams, 66, Maryville, was travelling north when he left the road striking a telephone pole. No injuries or citations.

Wilma Jean Allen, 67, Maryville was stopped, northbound, at the intersection of Fourth and North Main while Jessica L. King, 19, Peculiar, traveled north in the 300 block of North Main. King failed to notice that Allen was stopped and tried to stop suddenly. King was unable to stop and struck Allen's car in the rear. King was issued a citation for careless and imprudent driving by striking another vehicle in the rear.

A Maryville male reported his vehicle was damaged while parked in the 1100 block of North Main.

A Maryville officer took a report from a Maryville female of property damage to a residence in the 300 block of East Second.

A Maryville officer took a report from a Maryville female of her cell phone missing from an unknown location.

While on routine patrol in the 300 block of North Market, a Maryville officer observed a vehicle suddenly turn across the roadway and park in a no parking here to corner area. The driver was identified as Kevin M. Cullins, 21, St. Louis, and while talking to him an odor of intoxicants was detected. He was asked to perform field sobriety tests which he could not complete successfully and was arrested for driving while intoxicated after his blood alcohol content tested over the legal limit. He was issued a citation for careless and imprudent driving.

He was issued a citation for careless and imprudent driving.

Jan. 21

John E. Adwell, 75, Ravenwood, was parked in a private lot in the 1700 block of South Main. While backing from a parking spot, he struck Steven Nielson, Barnard. Adwell then left the scene. A citation was issued to Adwell for leaving the scene of an accident.

Jan. 22

Lisa M. Peacher, 21, Maryville, was backing out of a private parking space in the 100 block of East Jenkins, when she backed into another vehicle, which was parked on the north side of the street. A citation was issued to Peacher for improper backing.

While on patrol, at Fourth and Vine, a Maryville officer observed a vehicle make an illegal U-turn. The driver was identified as Brian J. Bennett, 22, Maryville. While talking to him, an odor of intoxicants was detected. He was asked to perform field sobriety tests which he could not complete successfully and was arrested for driving while intoxicated after his blood alcohol content tested over the legal limit. He was issued a citation for making an illegal U-turn.

Maryville officers received a report of a fight in progress in the 300 block of North Market. After speaking to witnesses, summons were issued to Jason A. Climer, 23, St. Joseph, for affray and Brian J. Norgard, 23, St. Joseph, for simple assault.

A Maryville male reported his vehicle was damaged while parked in the 300 block of North Market.

Polk Township Fire Units responded to a structure fire in the 29000 block of State Highway F in Conception Junction. Upon arrival, the fire was under control by the owner. Fire units extinguished the fire.

A Maryville officer observed a suspicious vehicle parked on an outer road in the 1500 Block of North Country Club Drive. While approaching the vehicle, the officer observed the driver, identified as Amy Jo Kunkelman, 18, Maryville, smoking a marijuana cigarette. She was issued a citation for possession of less than 35 grams of Marijuana.

Jan. 23

While on patrol in the 500 block of North Main, a Maryville officer observed a vehicle travelling south on North Main at a high rate of speed. The driver was identified as Rachelle R. Redmond, 32, Maryville. While talking with her, an odor of intoxicants was detected. She was asked to perform field sobriety tests which she could not complete successfully and was arrested for driving while intoxicated after her blood content tested over the legal limit. She was also issued a citation for exceeding the posted speed limit.

While on patrol in the 100 block of West Fifth, a Maryville officer observed two male subjects, holding bottles of an alcoholic beverage. The subjects were identified as Christopher S. Dittmer, 19, St. Joseph, and Timothy W. Grabel, 20, St. Joseph. Both were issued summons for minor in possession.

While on routine patrol in the 100 block of South Buchanan, a Maryville officer observed a vehicle swerve to the right side of the road almost striking the curb. The driver was identified as Joseph J. Mullins, 20, Maryville. While talking with him, an odor of intoxicants was detected. He was asked to perform field sobriety tests which he could not successfully complete, and was arrested for driving while intoxicated after his blood alcohol content tested above the legal limit. He was also issued a citation for careless and imprudent driving.

A Rock Port female reported that her credit card had been stolen from a vehicle parked on campus.

CAMPUS SAFETY

Jan. 20

A student reported having an allergic reaction to medication while in Colden Hall. Nodaway County Ambulance was contacted and transported the student to St. Francis Hospital for further evaluation.

Jan. 21

The Simplex System reported a fire

Jan. 22

A vehicle was towed from Lot 7 for receiving excessive parking violations on campus.

alarm in Brown Hall. An early childhood student activated the alarm.

A vehicle was towed from Lot 7 for receiving excessive parking violations on campus.

Jan. 23

Campus Safety investigated a report of a vehicle driving on the sidewalk in front of Owens Library. The vehicle attempted to flee the scene and wrecked at Fourth and Dunn. Two subjects exited the vehicle and were apprehended and booked into Nodaway County jail. The subjects were charged with property damage, resisting arrest by flight and speeding.

While on patrol, Campus Safety observed a vehicle fail to yield at Lot 8 and College Park Drive. A traffic stop was initiated and intoxicants were discovered on the driver's breath. The driver submitted to field sobriety test and was brought back to Campus Safety to be issued a citation for violation of zero.

Jan. 24

Campus Safety responded to Phillips Hall in reference to a medical emergency. The student was transported to St. Francis hospital for further evaluation.

Jan. 25

Campus Safety responded to a report of an unwanted guest at Dietrich Hall. Mike Kressler was the person identified as being disorderly and unable to be located.

SHERIFF

Jan. 22

James E. Laughlin, 35, Pickering, was

arrested on a Nodaway County warrant for passing bad checks. He was released on bond.

Nodaway County Sheriff's office along with the Atchison County Sheriff's office, Maryville Department of Public Safety and the Northwest Missouri Narcotics Enforcement Team served a search warrant for illegal narcotics at the 400 block of West Davidson Square.

Timothy Shackelford, 23, Maryville, was charged with intent to deliver a controlled substance; Christie Shackelford, 19, Maryville, was charged with intent to deliver a controlled substance; Michael Kissler, 20, Lincoln, Neb., was charged with delivery of a controlled substance; Laura Owens, 17, Maryville, received a summons for misdemeanor possession of marijuana and Jonathan Eckstein, 17, Maryville, received a summons for misdemeanor possession of marijuana.

Jan. 24

A Burlington Junction subject reported a burglary to a business in Burlington Junction.

OBITUARIES

Wilma June Watson

Wilma June Watson, 90, Maitland, died Jan. 18 at a hospital in St. Joseph. She was born March 27, 1909, to Lewis and Lena Watson in Maitland.

Services were Friday at Johnson Funeral Home in Maitland. Burial was at Maitland Cemetery in Maitland.

Carissa Selene Schafer

Carissa Selene Schafer, 15, Skidmore, died Friday in Graham.

She was born May 3, 1984, to Ronald and Lori Schafer in Maryville.

She is survived by her parents; one brother, Joshua; one sister, Natalie; grandparents, Joe and Beverly Auten and Herman and Kathleen Schafer; aunts; uncles and cousins.

Services were Monday at Price Funeral Home in Maryville. Burial was at Nodaway Memorial in Maryville.

Martha F. Johnston

Martha F. Johnston, 80, Maryville,

died Monday at Parkdale Manor Nursing Home in Maryville.

She was born Jan. 21, 1920 to Frank Henderson and Faye Green Henderson Hillsabeck in El Dorado Springs, Kan.

Burial will be at Inglewood Park Cemetery, Inglewood, Cal.

Eileen A. Boecker

Eileen A. Boecker, 97, Maryville, died Tuesday at Nodaway Nursing Home in Maryville.

She was born Feb. 3, 1902 to Thomas and Ellen McDonald Archer in Vesta, Neb.

She is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, William and Dee Boecker; two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Services are Saturday at Price Funeral home in Maryville. Burial is at St. Joseph Cemetery in St. Joseph.

BIRTHS

Thomas Dylan Wilmes

Robert and Jennifer Wilmes, Skidmore, are the parents of Thomas Dylan, who was born Jan. 14 at St. Francis Hospital in Maryville.

He weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces and joins one brother, Daseen.

His grandparents are Richard Blackford, Skidmore; Jessie and Dub Shepler, Wichita, Kan. and Tom and Sharon Wilmes, Big Lake.

Sydney Alice Conley

David and Pam Conley are the parents of Sydney Alice, who was born Monday at St. Francis Hospital in Maryville.

She weighed 8 pounds and joins two sisters, Bailey and Jordyn.

Her grandparents are Joe and Kay Christiansen, College Springs, Iowa and Richard and Maruerite Conley, Maryville.

Austin Bradley Pankau

Brad and Lynn Pankau are the parents of Austin Bradley, who was born Sunday at St. Francis Hospital in Maryville.

He weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces and joins a sister, Jordyn.

His grandparents are Don and Dorothy Clements, Hopkins and Donald and Joanna Pankau, Pickering.

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Student Senate FYIS

Organizational Mailboxes

All Student Senate recognized organizations have new mailboxes located in the Student Union. Please stop by the new Student Leadership Center and check your mail. You may be missing out on some important information.

Organizational Update Form

Please check your mailbox to obtain a copy of an update form. Forms are due back to the Senate office on January 28th by 5 p.m.! Turning this form in will help secure your organizational rights this trimester.

New Web page

Check out the new Student Senate web page. Everything you need to know can be found here.

Tower Service Award

Applications are now available at the Student Services Desk, Student Senate office, Residence hall front desks, and Student Senate web page. Nominate someone you think is an outstanding faculty, staff, administrator, support staff, or student.

Associate Members

Student Senate is now accepting applications for new associate members! Applications may be picked up at the Student Senate office or Student Leadership Center.

Senator of the Week

Congratulations Stacy Cummings! Thanks for all of your hard work on Northwest week! We can't wait!

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Cashing in on the Greed

By STACIE DOWELL
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Money. There are books, infomercials, and motivational speakers telling you how to get it. People hand over money to lotteries and casinos to make more of it.

Now America's need to get rich quick has taken a new direction — game shows. This past summer ABC introduced us to the British game show "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?", and from the looks of it, everyone did.

"Millionaire" has become America's latest fad.

Game shows have been around nearly as long as television. However, after the scandals surrounding quiz shows in the 1950s, most notably "The \$64,000 Question" where the contestants were given the answers, these game shows died out.

There are a few that have lasted such as "The Price is Right" and "Family Feud," but the game show is no longer in its prime-time view-



WINNING LINES

ing spot.

Now, it seems the tide has turned. Though it was thought that "Millionaire" would lose its popularity once it was competing against first-run episodes instead of reruns, America tunes in night after night to yell the answers to the questions at their television screen. The lights, music, and eerie quiet during the contestants' intense deliberation process, in addition to that suspenseful moment after Regis Philbin asks if the response is "your final answer" have worked together to make an extremely successful show.

According to the Nielson Ratings, on the week ending Aug. 29, 1999 "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?" grabbed six of the top 10 spots.

TWENTY ONE America

by K. P. M.

"Millionaire" offered the biggest payout of all preceding game shows, and has given out the largest lump sum prize of all time, the coveted million dollars.

With so many people turning in to watch, other networks have jumped on the bandwagon with shows such as "Greed" and "21."

"Any chance Americans have for easy money, they will go for it," Becky Wheeler, psychology major, said.

Viewers at home have a chance to get on the show by calling "Millionaire's" toll free number and playing their own game of fastest finger.

With all this money being given out, who would not want a chance to win a million dollars just by completing the phrase "Duck, Duck ..."

Though the latest chance to get on the show is over, that doesn't stop many Northwest students from being pulled into the suspense of the show.

"People have a chance of winning so much," Katie Phillips, speech communication and political science major, said. "You are watching people's willpower. Will they go for the money or walk away?"

Area residents agree that the amount of money at stake is what keeps people watching the show week after week.

"I think people like to see people get rich," Brian Easton, Maryville, said.

Other people watch for the reason of seeing how they would have done if they were the one answering the questions.

"I think part of the reason I watch is to see how good you are," Greg Hendrickson, Ravenwood, said.

As the ratings each week show, viewers keep watching to see just who will walk away, and who will walk away with a million dollars.

GREED

GREED: THE SERIES



PHOTO BY MICHAELA KANGER/ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CASEY HARGREAVES/FEATURES EDITOR

Web Extra

On the show "Who wants to be a Millionaire," contestants are allowed to phone a friend to help decide the answer. If you were a contestant on "Millionaire" ...

Who would be your lifeline and why?

Share your answers with us at

www.nwmissouri.edu/missourian/features.html

Select answers will be posted on *Missourian*

Online Thursday Feb. 3.

Missourian

Daily Online Edition



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Trying to figure out your summer plans?

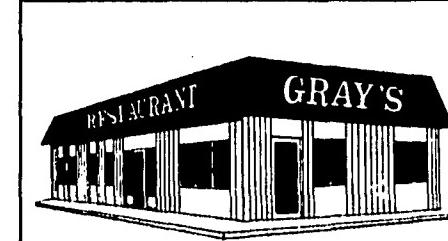
Northwest's summer course offerings are now posted on the University Web site:



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INSIDE

'Hounds get ready for final stretch

Wrestlers take on conference opponents in weekend matches **2B**

The Stroller

Stroller takes pride in Bearcat's national championship title **4B**

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY'

THE NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN Sports



Opposites Attract

See how the Maryville girls finished after weekend loss and if the boys continue their winning streak. **2B**

Thursday, Jan. 27, 2000

Volume 74, Issue 3

2 sections, 12 pages

Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville, Mo. 64468

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'Cats take on ranked teams

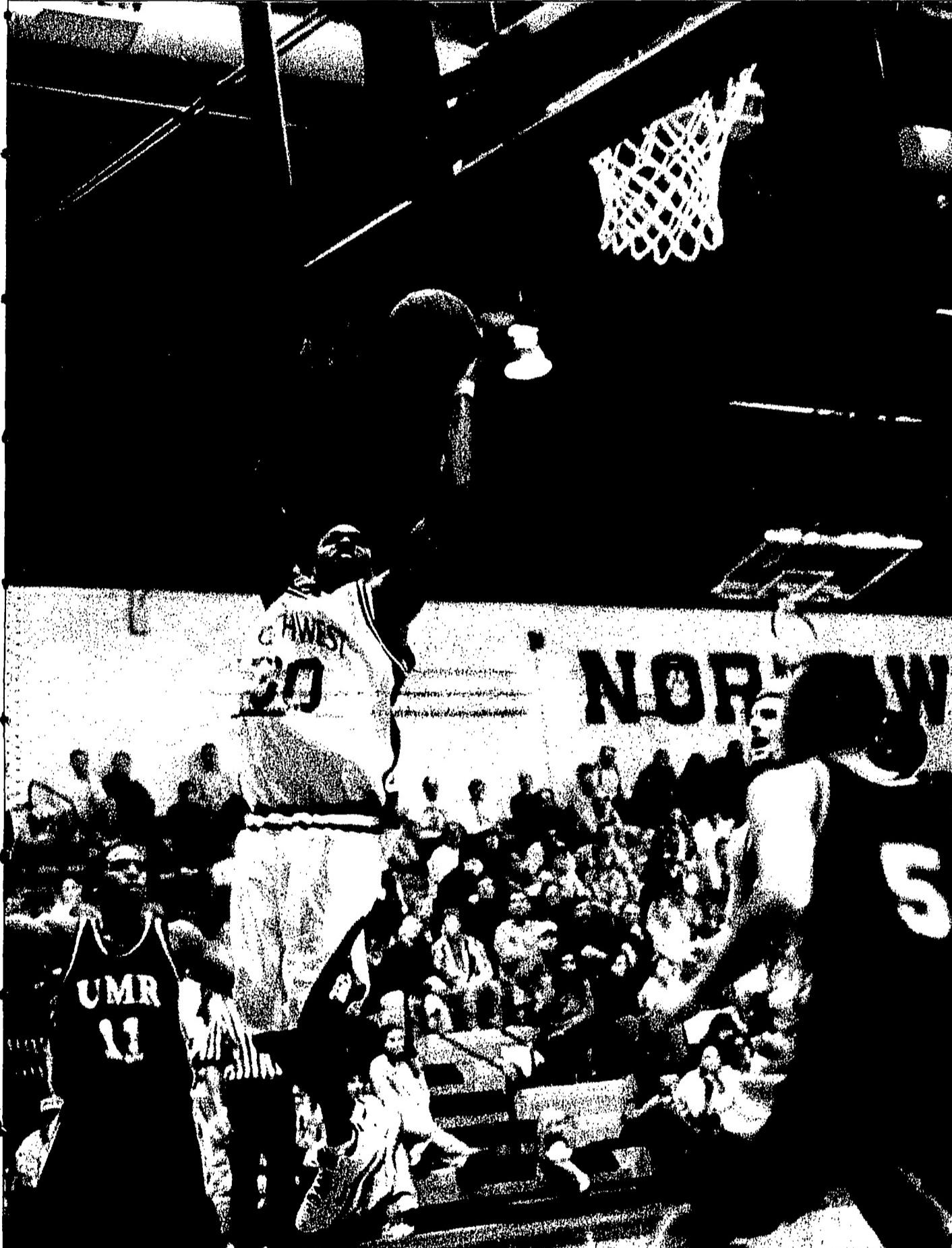


PHOTO BY MICHAELA KANGER/ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Senior guard Kareem Preston sails to the basket. Preston made three-of-four scoring attempts. Northwest beat the University of Missouri-Rolla Miners, 88-75. Northwest will battle Missouri Southern State College at 3:30 p.m. Saturday at the Leggett and Platt Athletic Center.

Women's cagers still struggling

Women's Basketball
• Cats have lost the last nine games in a row.
• Overall record: 4-12.
• MIAA Conference: 0-8.

• Women's basketball travel on to play the University of Missouri-Rolla Miners at 3:30 p.m. Saturday at the Leggett and Platt Athletic Center.

• Women's basketball travel on to play the University of Missouri-Rolla Miners at 3:30 p.m. Saturday at the Leggett and Platt Athletic Center.

By JUSTIN MCALER
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

The Northwest women's basketball team is back on the road after dropping its ninth-straight game in a loss to Washburn University Wednesday.

The Bearcats started the road trip Wednesday night when they played at Washburn University.

Despite falling to 4-12 and 0-8 in MIAA conference play, the 'Cats are still up-beat heading into their next three games, head coach Gene Steinmeyer said.

"They are playing positive, working and anxious to turn this thing around," Steinmeyer said.

The 'Cats will face the Ichabods and Missouri Southern State College in the next two games. Both teams are struggling in conference and will give Northwest a chance to get back into race to reach the conference tournament. Washburn is 8-11 overall and 2-6 in the MIAA while Missouri South-

We're more focused on the road. There is no distraction from class. We can focus on what is in front of us.

GENE STEINMEYER
HEAD COACH

ern is 2-13 overall and 0-7 in the conference.

"Something is going to come from these next two games that is going to separate someone from the pack," Steinmeyer said.

Northwest plays its next three games on the road. The 'Cats have been a better road team than a home team said Steinmeyer.

"We're more focused on the road," Steinmeyer said. "There is no distraction from class. We can focus on what is in front of us."

The 'Cats are just looking to end an eight-game losing streak, whether it be on the road or at home.

"We're going to have to grind it out," Steinmeyer said. "(We) just have to get in the win column."

The 'Cats fell in overtime to Missouri-Rolla, 100-90. In the game, Missouri-Rolla hit an MIAA record for most three pointers in a game hitting, 14 of 27. But the 'Cats did not do anything to lose the game down the stretch, Steinmeyer said.

"We had a shot to win," he said. "We executed, (we) just didn't connect. It didn't happen."

Northwest has been hurt by injuries of late, but are expected to have some players return soon. Senior guard Becky Wheeler will return for a limited roll for Wednesday's game.

Northwest will continue its travel on the road next week at Southwest Baptist University.



PHOTO BY MICHAELA KANGER/ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Junior center Denise Sump goes up for two points while a University of Missouri-Rolla defender tries for a block.

Campus rewards gridders

Northwest football fans will have another chance to celebrate the 'Cats' national championship victory Saturday at Bearcat Arena.

The 1999 national championship celebration will begin at 1 p.m. with an autograph session. National championship posters will be available, as will commemorative celebration programs with a special autograph section. Several members of the Northwest football team and coaches will be available for autographs from 1 p.m. through 4:30 p.m.

Later that evening the team will hold its awards ceremony, which is open to the public. Trophy presentations, remarks from head coach Mel Tjeerdtsma, President Dean Hubbard and Athletics Director Jim Redd, and the premiere of the 1999 Bearcat highlight video. The awards ceremony will begin at 6:30 p.m. and run around 8 p.m.

'Cats' indoor track team hopes for improvement

By JUSTIN BUSH
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

After a rocky start the Northwest track teams hope to improve this week as they travel to Pittsburg State University.

The men's and women's indoor track teams opened up their season on Friday and Saturday at the Iowa State Invitational.

"We really hit the dust bad," head coach Richard Alsip said. "Both of the teams looked out of shape after coming back from break. A good athlete can be a little out of shape and still come out and give it everything he has and do OK, but he didn't even seem to have much of that although."

When it comes to track it is the later meets in the season that count the most.

"At Pitt State all of the running events are ran between 6 p.m. and 8:25 p.m.," coach Erick Wentzel said. "That's a lot of races with a short amount of time between them. That means next week we will be able to work on quantity so that way we can work on quality for the (University of Kansas) in two weeks."

The long month off leaves athletes at a point to where they almost have to start over.

"We really get on the kids to get more and more in shape physically every week," Alsip said. "That way hopefully they will be prepared mentally come time for the conference meet."

The meet was not without positives though.

Freshmen Jenny Simmons set a new school record in the pole vault with jump of 9-feet-10-inches beating the old school mark by more than a foot.

Sophomore Bryce Good ran a 4:15 mile in the distance medley relay on Friday. Then on Saturday he ran a 1:55.30 in the 800 meters and 51 (seconds) in the mile relay. "Bryce Good had an excellent meet," Alsip said.

The team is not going to let the meet bother them as they look ahead in the season, Alsip said.

"I think that we will be more than the other schools in the conference can handle in the vaulting this season," Alsip said. "Over all I look for all of the schools to match up pretty evenly this season."

Girls bounce back from tourney loss

By MATT SEVART
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

After finishing 1-2 in the Bishop Miege/Park Hill Tournament with a disappointing 47-32 loss to Park Hill on Friday, the Maryville High School girls' basketball team bounced back again, gaining a victory Tuesday over St. Joseph LeBlond, 63-27.

The win bumped the 'Hounds record to 11-8 overall and 1-0 in the Midland Empire Conference.

However, the 'Hounds hope they can keep this momentum as they go into a six game conference stretch. The girls' get things rolling at 8 p.m. Monday away against Platte County.

"We are going to have a good hard week of practice and get people focused in on conference," head coach Randy Cook said. "We need to come out on Monday and set the tone. We

can meet our expectations if everybody goes hard and does their best for the time they are in the game. When we play the way we are capable of, we are very effective and at times dangerous."

Cook was pleased with the 'Hounds performance against LeBlond and is prepared for conference games.

"There was not much to complain about (Tuesday night), Cook said. "We were up 36-10 at halftime, and we didn't let up very much in the second half. Everything went well and we finished with four players in double figures."

Junior guard Dana Lade led the team with 16 points, but had help from sophomore guard Hailey Lawyer who had 12, and freshman forward Cauleen Bradley with 11. Sophomore center Erin Lohsler also added 10

points in the 'Hounds victory.

Cook said the girls played their game and set the tone against LeBlond.

"This was probably one of the better games we have played," he said. "I decided to go to a half court, man to man defense, and we shut them off from everything they wanted to do. We had 16 steals and a lot of breakaways. This led to some easy baskets, and we started getting confident and things started going our way."

Maryville	63
St. Joseph LeBlond	27
Maryville.....	16 20 14 13 63
LeBlond.....	4 6 7 10 27
'Hounds	
Jessica Cage, 2, Hailey Lawyer, 13,	
Dana Lade, 15, Jessie Copper, 8,	
Cauleen Bradley, 11, Erin Lohsler,	
10, Jenifer Easton, 4.	

Jessica Cage, 2, Hailey Lawyer, 13, Dana Lade, 15, Jessie Copper, 8, Cauleen Bradley, 11, Erin Lohsler, 10, Jenifer Easton, 4.



PHOTO BY JENNIFER HARRISON / MISSOURIAN PHOTOGRAPHER
The Maryville High School girls' basketball team practices its rebound skills Monday. On Tuesday, the 'Hounds beat St. Joseph LeBlond, 63-27, and Maryville had four players score in double digits. The girls start a six-game conference stretch Monday at 8 p.m. against Platte County High School.

Chillicothe drops Spoofhounds again

Hornets put end to winning streak, take 54-35 victory from Maryville

By BRIAN JOHNSON
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

The six-game winning streak of the Maryville boys' basketball team quickly came to an end last week, but they will try to rebound and get back into the victory column.

The Spoofhounds, 12-4 overall and 1-0 in the Midland Empire Conference, will compete against Auburn, Neb., at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Maryville High School. It will be the second time the teams have met this year. The first victory went to Maryville in the Savannah Tournament semifinal.

"We have not seen too much of them, but we hope to execute more," head coach Mike Kuwitzky said. "We only beat them by 10 points in the Savannah Tournament, so we know they will be ready to get payback."

Auburn will be the first of a two-game series in two days for the 'Hounds as they tool up and better prepare for conference play.

In the second game, the 'Hounds will compete at 8 p.m. Falls City, Neb.

The 'Hounds winning streak came to an abrupt halt at Chillicothe, losing 54-35 last Friday.

"Basically, Chillicothe was ready to play for this game, and they played as the better team," Kuwitzky said. "They executed better and out hustled us during the most critical parts of the game."

Even though the 'Hounds lost the game, Kuwitzky said he was pleased by the determination of his players to consistently comeback throughout the game.

"They never gave up, and I'm grateful that this is a team that won't quit no matter the obstacles in front of them," Kuwitzky said. "This is a game we can take and learn from once we start conference."

Chillicothe defenders held Maryville scorers in check all throughout the game. Senior guard Zane Schulte was the only 'Hound player who scored in double digits, as he finished with 10 points.

SPOOFHOUND BOY'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time
Jan. 27	Auburn, Neb.	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 28	Falls City, Neb.	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 1	Platte County	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 4	Smithville	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 7	Chillicothe*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 11	Benton*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 15	Cameron*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 18	Savannah *	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 21-26	Districts (Park Hill)	TBA
March 1	Sectionals	TBA
March 4	Quarterfinals	TBA
March 10-11	State	TBA

All games tipoff with junior varsity at 5:30 p.m. varsity 6 p.m.

Home Games in Bold type / Denotes Conference Game

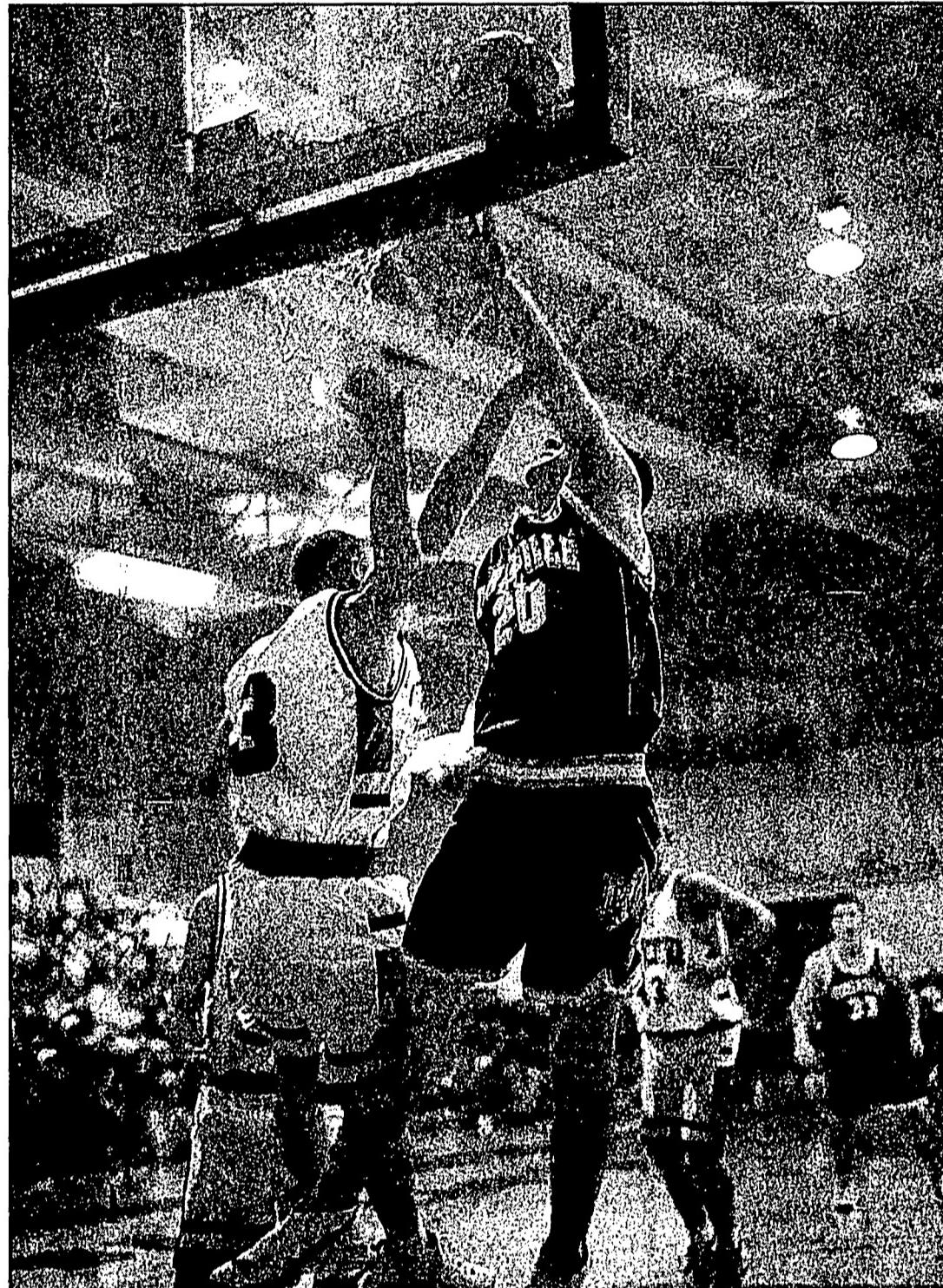


PHOTO BY MICHAELA KANGER / ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Spoofhound sophomore guard Trent Twaddle goes up for a basket during the fourth quarter of Maryville's game against Chillicothe Friday night. The 'Hounds winning streak came to an end with a 54-35 loss to the Hornets. Maryville will play host to Auburn, Neb., Thursday at 7 p.m.

Wrestlers prep for season's final matches

By MATT SEVART
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

The Maryville High School wrestling season comes to a close with a dual meet against Smithville at 7 p.m. Thursday.

The 'Hounds, 4-5 overall, will compete in the Quad-State Classic, an over 20 year tradition held at Maryville High School.

In the late 1970s, when the tournament began it was known as the Quadrangular Tournament. Later it evolved to an eight-team tournament, and now is a 10-team tournament.

As the tournament progressed it brought in one or two schools from out-of-state and some where along the way it was decided that the tournament should include teams from Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska, forming the Quad-State Classic.

"It is a very competitive tournament," head coach Joe Drake said. "The teams are always very close going into the finals. There has never been a runaway with it. It seems to be very competitive because each school knows that they are representing their state."

JOE DRAKE
HEAD COACH

Drake said the empty weight classes will lead to a focus on individual standings.

"Because of the number of opens we have going into the tournament we probably aren't going to fare real well because we are not going to be able to score any points," Drake said. "Our goal now is to see individually as many of our kids do as well as possible."

Senior Heath Reynolds (145 lb), with a 16-4 record, said he looks forward to the home event and the out-of-state competition.

"It is a lot of fun to wrestle at home in front of the home crowd," Reynolds said. "Usually a lot of people come out to watch it. I am looking forward to it. Usually the Iowa and Kansas schools bring really good teams down. Like usual we aren't really shooting a lot for the team stuff because of the empty weight classes. We are concentrating on individuals a lot because of that and what we do as a team is just icing on the cake."

The tournament will begin at 11 a.m. Saturday at Maryville High School.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

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Bearcat sophomore guard
Led all Bearcat scorers in Saturday's loss to Missouri-Rolla with 33 points. Also broke the school three-point record held at by hitting eight three-pointers



Amanda Winter

Spoofhound senior grappler
Despite being pinned against 1999 Missouri wrestling state champion, Bobby Fisher of Platte County, Reynolds has put together a 16-4 individual record.



Heath Reynolds

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CODY SNAPP/ GRAPHICS EDITOR

Commercials will be at an all-time high for Super Bowl XXXIV, as companies will be paying \$2 million for 30-second spots, up 25 percent from 1999. It is the highest average ever for commercials during a television program.

So, what company will be spending the most money for air time? If you guessed Anheuser-

Bush, then you are correct. As the event's largest advertiser, Anheuser-Bush will pay ABC \$17 million for 10,30-second spots.

Other advertisers include:

- Oxygen Media, the women's cable network started by Geraldine Laybourne, plans to announce its Feb. 2 launch.
- Dow Jones, parent company of the Wall Street and financial portal DowJones.com
- Angelips.com, a site matching accredited investors with start-up companies that need funding, is using the Super Bowl for its launch.

- Computer.com, which is only five months old, bought two slots in the pre-game show, and one during the game.

- HotJobs.com wrote the book on using the Super Bowl to increase visibility. CEO Richard Johnson gambled \$2 million on the last Super Bowl, even though his company's revenue was only \$4 million.

- Monster.com, not to be outdone by the competition, bought two Super Bowl ads after HotJobs.com announced its buy.

- Screamingmedia.com provides specialized content for a variety of Web sites.

- OurBeginning.com, specializing in announcements for all occasions, is spending close to \$4 million on four pregame spots and an ad in the third quarter.

- Pets.com has already begun its holiday ad campaign starring a hand puppet.

- E-Trade online trading firm is making the biggest splash of all the newcomers to the game. It is running two ads in the pre-game, two during the game, one prior to the start of the third quarter, and it's sponsoring the half-time show.

In addition to the dot-com advertisers, some of the usual players will show up:

- Pepsi, which used the Super Bowl to push Pepsi One last year, has reserved two minutes of ad time for its various products.

- Frito-Lay, the maker of Doritos and Tostitos will be the game, but do not look for Ali Landry to return.

- Visa will use the Super Bowl ad slot to tout its Olympics sponsorship.

- World Wrestling Federation stormed the Super Bowl last year and will return.

- BMW, fresh off a successful James Bond tie-in, the German automaker has designs to make impressions for the Super Bowl.

Advertising information on this page was obtained from <http://www.superbowl-ads.com/>. Please visit this site for more information regarding the Super Bowl.

THE FINAL TWO

By BLAKE DREHLE

SPORTS EDITOR

When Super Bowl XXXIV kicks off on Sunday, it will mark the first NFL championship game of the new decade and will put two teams in unfamiliar waters.

However, even though the Tennessee Titans and St. Louis Rams enter this game as the most unlikely teams to be in Atlanta, things are not much different than Super Bowls of the past.

Like most recent Super Bowls, the favorite is predicted to win by a landslide and that happens to be the Rams, who are seven-point favorites.

This is no surprise to many because the Rams, according to some experts, seem to have more firepower on offense and a quicker defense to get the ball faster on the road.

St. Louis offers many weapons offensively starting with the NFL's Most Valuable Player, quarterback Kurt Warner, who led the league in pass efficiency with a 109 rating while throwing for 4,353 yards, 41 touchdowns and 13 interceptions. Warner may be considered the most surprising story of the year after coming out of nowhere to lead the Rams to Super Bowl, but there was a sturdy supporting cast that did their part in helping him.

The longest surprise trade of the year occurred during the 1999 NFL Draft, when the Rams announced they made a deal with the Indianapolis Colts to trade second- and fifth-round draft choices for running back Marshall Faulk, because of a fat contract Faulk was pursuing.

But, after agreeing on a seven-year, \$45.15 million contract, Faulk showed his abilities, being named the NFC's Offensive Player of the Year rushing for 1,381 yards and catching 88 passes for 1,048 receiving yards. He also scored 12 times during the season. It is only the second time in NFL history a running back has run and caught over 1,000 yards. The other was San Francisco 49er back Roger Craig.

Besides Faulk, the Rams feature gifted wide receivers in "the Reverend" Isaac Bruce, Azzahir Hakim and rookie Torry Holt.

They combined for 2,630 receiving yards and 26 touchdowns of total offense for St. Louis.

The question that surrounds the offense is: Is there a good enough defense to stop it?

In last week's NFC championship game, the NFL's No. 1 defense, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers tried its hardest. Tampa Bay held the Rams to only 11 points, the lowest for St. Louis this season. But when the Rams offense needed to come up with a touchdown late in

the fourth quarter, they produced.

The only other defense that has held the Rams in check was this same Titans team during the regular season.

Granted, Tennessee had the luxury of hosting St. Louis during the first meeting, but the Titans have been underdogs since the playoffs started and according to players and coaches that is the way they like it.

The Titan defense may not seem like the most intimidating squad in Super Bowl history, but this team has a good enough nucleus of veterans and speedy position players to throw the Rams offense off-guard.

Led by defensive linemen Kenny Holmes, Henry Ford and "the Freak" Jevon Kearse and secondary players Samari Rolle and Blaine Bishop, the Titan defense was second in the NFL during the regular season in give-away-take-away ratio at +18.

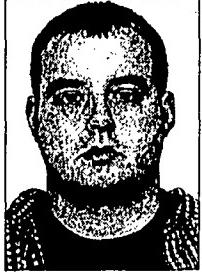
The Titans were strong in forcing turnovers throughout the playoffs, with six against the Jacksonville Jaguars in the AFC championship game. Forcing turnovers and keeping the Rams offense on its heels could give the Titans the considerable edge they need.

This may be considered to be the oddest Super Bowl matchup to date, but if everything goes the way it has in the playoffs, it could be the most promising game in a long time.

A CENTURY OF HALFTIME ENTERTAINMENT

I University of Arizona and University of Michigan Bands	IV Carol Channing	VII University of Michigan Band	IX Mercer Ellington and Grambling Bands	XII Up with People	XVI Tyler Apache Belles/Pete Fontain	XIX U.S. Air Force Band: "Tops in Blue"	XX Up with People	XXIV Pete Fountain/Doug Kershaw/Irma Thomas	XXV New Kids on the Block	XXX Diana Ross	XXXI Blues Brothers/ZZTop/James Brown	XXXIII Stevie Wonder/Gloria Estefan/Brian Boitano/Dorothy Hamill	XXXIV Aguilera/Enrique Iglesias/Toni Braxton/Edward James Olmos/Mariah Carey/Collins
II Florida A&M Band	III America Thanks	VIII University of Texas Band	X Up with People	XIII Ken Hamilton, various Caribbean Bands	XV Southern University Band	XVII Los Angeles Super Drill Team	XXI Southern California high school drill teams	XXII Chubby Checker/Rockettes	XXVI Gloria Estefan/Travis Tritter/Wynona and Naomi Judd	XXIX Patti LaBelle/Tony Bennett/Arturo Sandoval	XXXII Boyz II Men/Smokey Robinson/Martha Reeves/Temptations/Queen Latifah		
Grambling University Band	Florida A&M Band	Carol Channing, U.S. Marine Corps	Los Angeles Unified All-City Band	XI Up with People	XIV Up with People	XVIII University of Florida and Florida State University Bands	XIX School drill teams and dancers	XXVII Michael Jackson	XXVIII Clint Black/Tanya Tucker/Miami Sound Machine	XXX Robinson/Martha Reeves/Temptations/Queen Latifah			

Columnist makes Super Bowl prediction: the winner is singer Aguilera



By BLAKE DREHLE

SPORTS EDITOR

Isn't it funny how the NFL works out. The Rams moved from Los Angeles to St. Louis five years ago. The residents gave no serious thought to the Rams contending in the playoffs, let alone the Super Bowl.

What disappoints me is how this Super Bowl has been predicted to be another blowout between two

teams that haven't even made the playoffs in the last five years.

How can people talk about how glad they are to see a game that isn't dominated by the Denver Broncos, San Francisco 49ers or the Dallas Cowboys without realizing the two teams in the Super Bowl pretty much ruled the NFL.

Were there any teams in the NFL besides the Titans and the up-and-coming Philadelphia Eagles

(watch out for them next year) that controlled the Rams this year? I didn't think so.

That is why Tennessee is the best team to match-up against the Rams—both teams fought hard to get to the Super Bowl.

There are possibilities of this being a great game because both teams feature flashy offenses, swift defenses and are well-coached.

However, I don't think the Rams

will have an easy time with the Titans for two reasons:

■ The Jaguars held Titan rookie defensive end Jevon Kearse with two tackles, so the Super Bowl will belong to him. He will make pancakes out of offensive linemen Orlando Pace and make quarterback Kurt Warner's life miserable.

■ Titan running back Eddie George will also rebound from the struggles he had against the Jags

and wreak havoc out of the Rams defensive line and secondary.

Kearse and George will inspire the rest of the Titan team to step up and sweep the Rams.

Final score: Titans 35, Rams 27.

Of course none of this will probably happen, but no need to worry, Christina Aguilera is performing at the halftime show and that is more important than the game.

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Stroller celebrates champs

It's pretty cool being the two-time NCAA Division II National Champion Stroller. I know I stroll around here with my nose in the air a lot more than usual.

I don't know if you were actually at the game, if you watched it on television, or if you're just now jumping on the bandwagon. Maybe this is the first time you've even heard we won the national championship again because there really has not been as much hoopla for this one as the first one. For me, though, since it has happened, I expect to get a little more respect around this place since I played such a key role in helping us to another year of national prominence.

It was my job to stay here in the 'Ville and watch it on television. Your Man had spent all of his money for the trimester on Pokemon cards, so I couldn't even afford the bus ride. The truth is, I didn't think we'd win. I thought our luck was up. We couldn't win the national championship again playing like we did in the playoffs, relying on some miracle towards the end. It wasn't going to happen again.

My prediction looked correct when



THE STROLLER

the game actually started. We went out there and looked like little bear kittens getting our bellies scratched. We were down big time, quickly, and it seemed to me that the game was over; I fell asleep until halftime.

But a funny thing happened in the second half. We kept fighting. We never did slack off. We chipped away, got close, and then Carson-Newman College flubbed it up. They did. They gave us the game. That poor, pathetic school blew another championship game. They face the same curse the Kansas City Chiefs do — they cannot win a championship.

Of course, Your Man went bolting into the streets of the 'Ville after we hoisted that plaque into the air. Expecting riots and chaos after the greatest football game ever, I stopped screaming to realize, as always, this town was as quiet as the third floor of the library. I ran downtown to the local establishments expecting a giant celebration and found darkened rooms with the usual townies and no students. Yet, when I watched television later that night, there were thousands of Bearcat fans in the big city establishments, all slurring about the 'Cats. I guess it makes more sense to root for your university anywhere else but here.

So what's the message here? I think everyone should have learned that life is like being down in the fourth quarter by eight points and your opponent has the ball. Sure, you can say it's impossible and give up, or you can give it your all and hope for the other side to flub it up. Or pray for the miracle fumble. Either way, you should probably get out of town for the weekend. We are the champions, my friends. Carson-Newman blew it again.

—By Matt Stroller, Northwest Missouri State University

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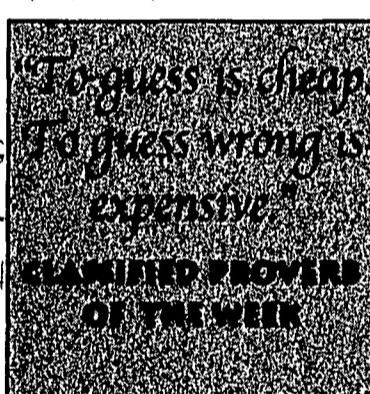
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* Only 55 percent of all Americans know that the sun is a star.

* 27 percent of U.S. male college students believe life is a meaningless existential hell.

* 95 percent of food poisoning cases are never reported.

* One billion seconds is about 31.7 years.

* 40 percent of McDonald's profits come from the sales of "Happy Meals".

* Any number, squared, is equal to one more than the numbers on either side of it — 4x6 is 24, 5x5 is 25.

* There are two credit cards for every person in the United States.

* Odds of being killed by falling out of bed, one in two million.

* Driving at 75 mph, it would take 258 days to drive around one of Saturn's rings.

* The odds against a person being struck by a meteorite, are 10 trillion to one.

* Odds of being killed by space debris — 1 in 5 billion.

For more facts visit <http://www.uselessfacts.net>. Compiled by Laura Prichard/Design Director

WEEKLY CROSSWORD

Across

1. Nirvana song off "In Utero"
5. 1980 Paul Simon tune
10. Half a dance
13. Off in the distance
14. "Oh, give me..."
15. Folk star Ochs
16. Flower of Midler
17. Chick in jazz
18. Fixes, as an outcome
19. Spinal Tap album that received a two-word review
22. Puts down for the count
23. While Nelson hit "... Antonio"
24. "Burnin' for You" band
32. It might be long and strange
33. Mozart's night
34. "La Bamba" actor Morales
35. CD
36. Mai (cocktail variety)
37. Matey's reply
38. "If you're not ____ for love..." (Shania Twain line)
40. Michael and Sean
42. They might be inflated
43. "Abbey Road" tune
46. Took a load off
47. ____ Alcindor (Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's old name)
48. George Harrison song off "Cloud Nine"

Down

1. Williams of folk
2. Space saucers
3. Its theme song was "Suicide is Painless"
4. Disband
5. ____ 5
6. "Now I've Got You!" sounds
7. "You've Got

- Mail" director Ephron
8. 1965 gospel album by the Staple Singers
9. DJ's wear
10. Stylin'
11. Like Blondie's tide
12. Jarreau and Jolson
15. ____ Rogers Nelson ("The Artist")
20. Wade opponent
21. Bob Marley classic
24. Bucking horse
25. Eagles title word
26. Bob Geldof's ex Paula ____
27. Gives a quick look
28. Lauryn Hill's "That ____"
29. Grammatical concern
30. Use as a bed

31. TV hit "Family ____"

32. Many a band

33. Flips a coin

40. Postpone

41. Italian city near Naples

42. John of The Spinners

44. Oom- band

45. Hi- graphics

48. Bus need

49. Composer Stravinsky

50. Astronomic wonder

51. It may be evil

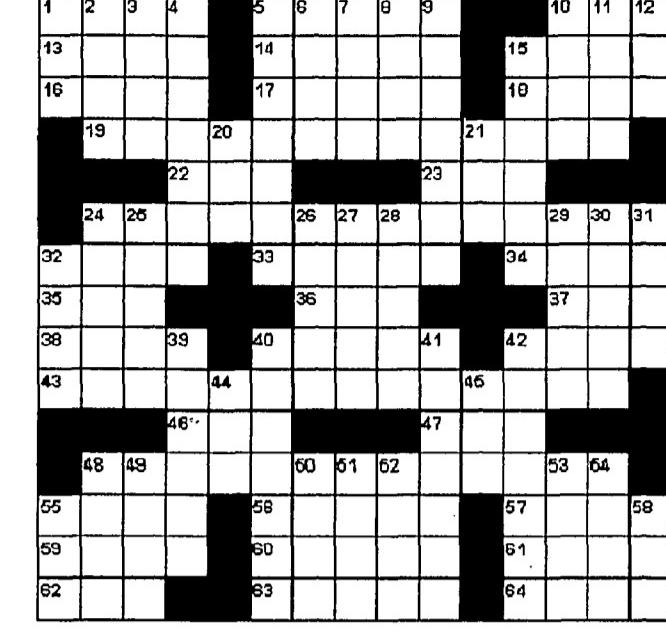
52. "The ____ Is On"

53. He fiddled while Rome burned

54. "Disco Duck" man Rick

55. Weightlifter's lift

58. Day, to Enrique Iglesias



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THE NORTHWEST Michigan Quest of the Cats

1999 SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE FOOTBALL ISSUE

INSIDE

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Bearcats were faced with adversity before the season even started, and it only got worse.

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Go back through the Bearcat Football season game by game and see how the 1999 'Cats formed their own identity

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Northwest faces its first loss in 16 games against University of Nebraska-Omaha

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The 'Cats managed to capture the MIAA title and secure a place in the playoffs, but it would not be an easy road to the championship

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Junior quarterback Travis Miles tells how he came out from behind Chris Greisen's shadow and made the Bearcats into his team

30
With the loss of several key players because of injuries and illness, the Bearcat defense had to find a new line of attack

1999 NCAA DIVISION II NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	OT 1	OT 2	OT 3	OT 4	Final Score
Carson-Newman College Eagles 13-1	10	14	6	14	0	0	8	0	52

MAKING HISTORY

The NCAA Division II National Championship was the longest running game with four overtimes in Division II history. The game was also the highest scoring football game, 58-52, in NCAA history.

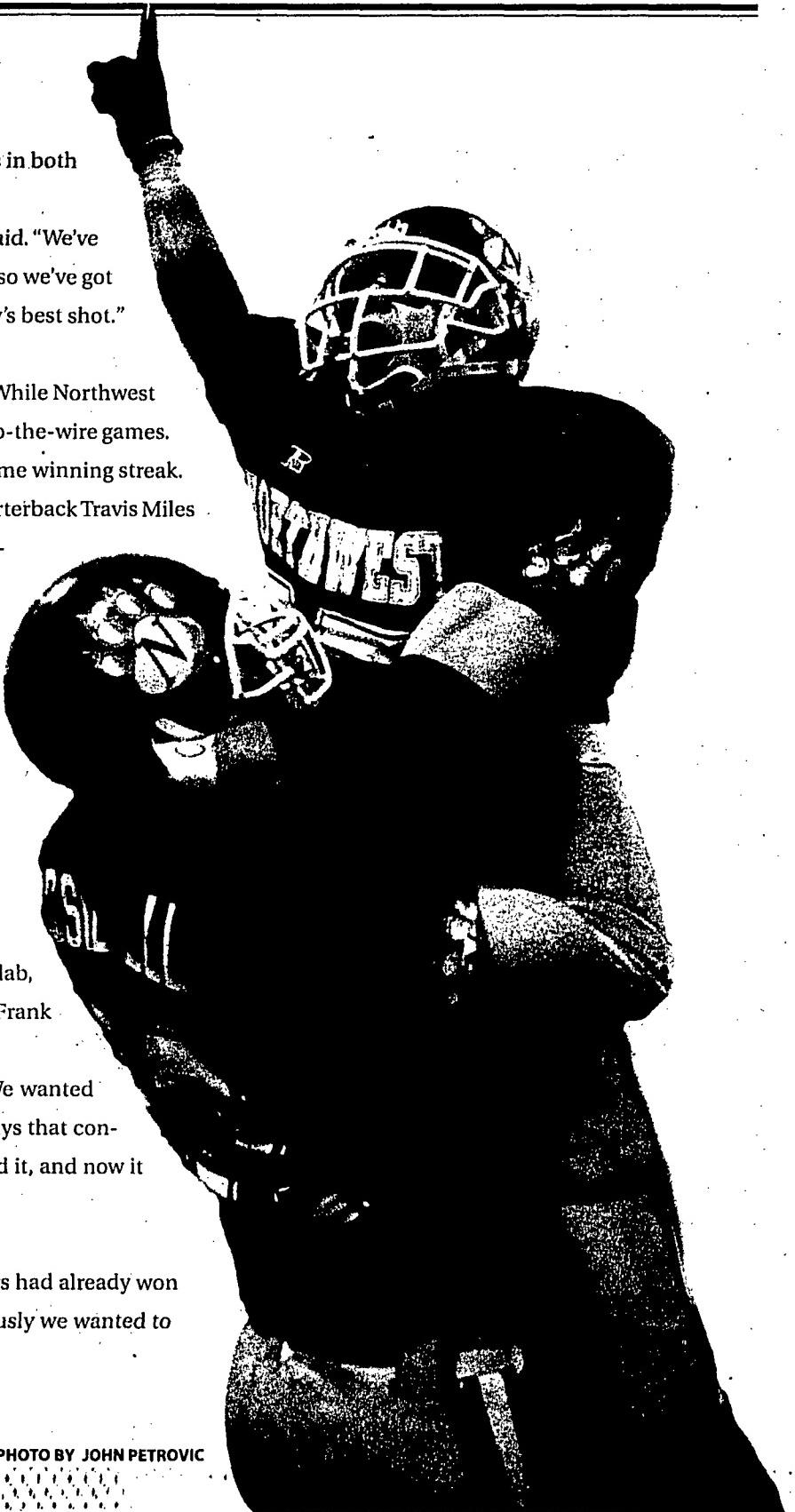


PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

The polls were out and Northwest had taken top spots in both the NCAA Division II poll and the MIAA poll.

"That doesn't mean anything," head coach Mel Tjeerdsma said. "We've never been picked first before, but we're the national champs so we've got pressure on us anyway. We know we're going to get everybody's best shot."

Tjeerdsma was exactly right.

In 1999, the Bearcats got more than everybody's best shot. While Northwest had its share of blowouts, the team also had a share of down-to-the-wire games. One opponent was even able to put an end to the 'Cats 16-game winning streak.

Through it all the critics kept knocking. How will junior quarterback Travis Miles replace Chris Greisen? How will the team replace injured All-America defensive tackle Aaron Becker? Will junior wide receiver Tony Miles have as great a year as '98? Can the Bearcats beat Pittsburg State University again?

The doubting was a never-ending saga for Northwest, but all the Bearcats really wanted was to establish a separate identity from the record-breaking '98 team that shadowed them.

Gone were key starters Chris Greisen, Jay Eilers, Sherman Wilderness, Steve Coppinger, Derek Lane, Aaron Crowe, Brian Sutton, Twan Young and Daniel Keys.

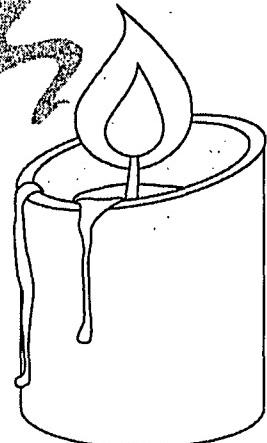
In were Travis Miles, Monty Williams, Lamont Barrett, Joe Glab, Dave Jansen, Brian Schertz, David Carlson, Ryan Miller and Frank Taylor.

"We wanted to be known as the 1999 team," Glab said. "We wanted our own look and take care of business. There were a lot of guys that contributed (in '98), but didn't get to play all the time. We watched it, and now it was our turn to win."

The goals were clear for the '99 team.

"We wanted to win the MIAA," Tjeerdsma said. "The seniors had already won three in a row and for their class that was the ultimate. Obviously we wanted to get back to Alabama, but there was a lot that preceded that."

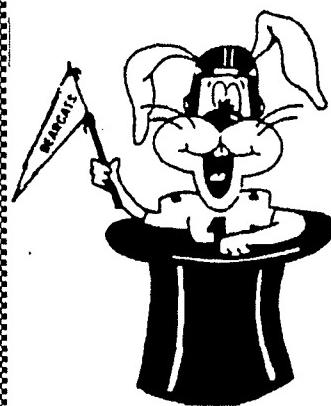
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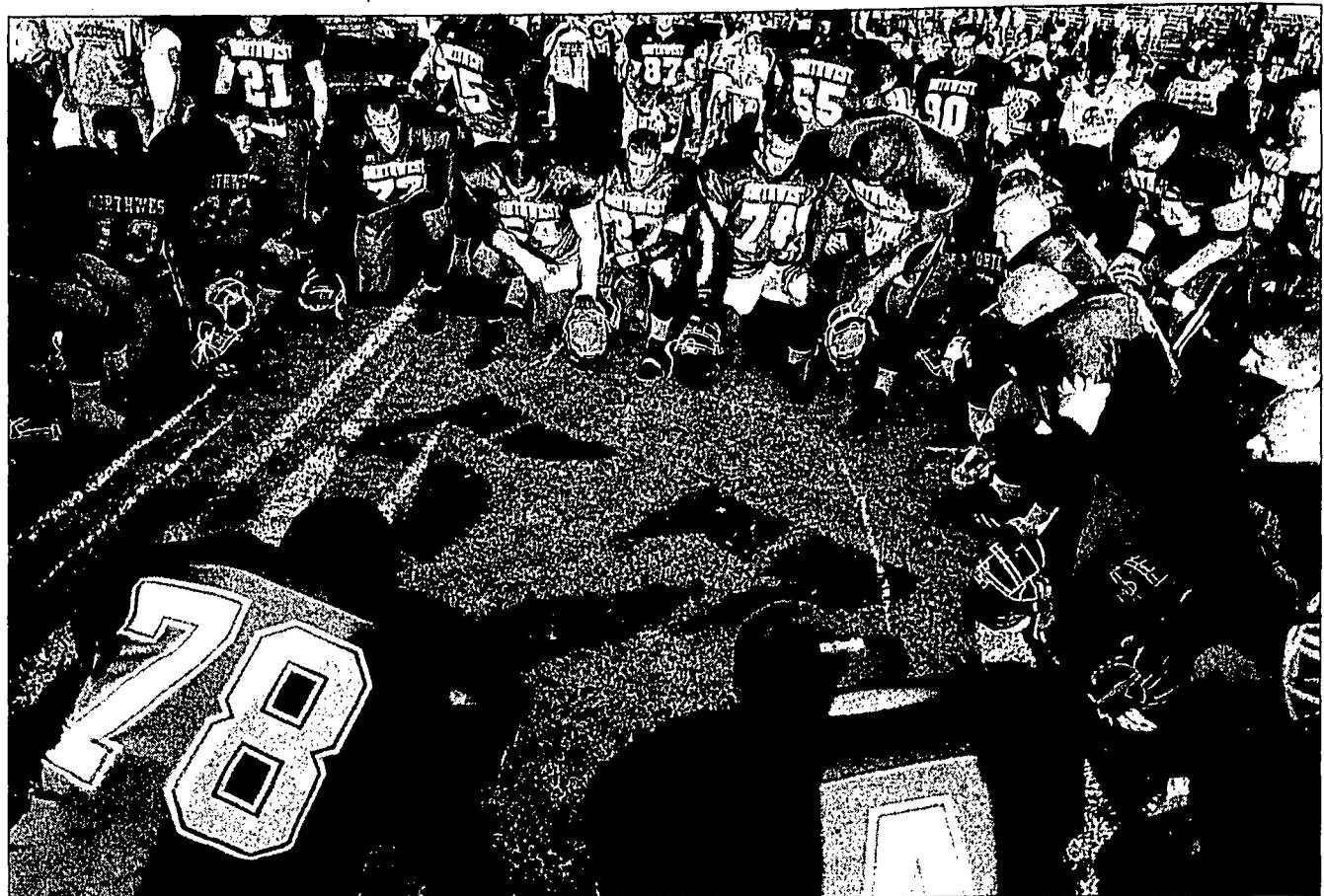


PHOTO BY MIKE RANSDELL

The Bearcat Football team gathers around Phil Voge's No. 57 after the game against Central Missouri State University. Voge's number was painted at the center of the field in his honor. He died one day before the game because of head injuries suffered in a car accident.

Voge, was a freshman defensive end from Galva, Iowa. His brother, Matt, was a defensive tackle for the Bearcats.

Death, injuries and a loss

"Adversity is given to people who can overcome it." That was the answer redshirt freshman safety Ryan Miller gave when Northwest players were asked what was going through their minds during the final minutes of Northwest's thrilling national championship victory.

"I truly believe that," Miller said. "We showed a lot of heart."



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE AHRENS
Senior cornerback Greg Wayne cheers on the sideline during a Bearcat football game. Wayne was diagnosed with low-grade lymphoma cancer prior to the season. He appeared in two games, but

As many people know, winning back-to-back championships was a rarity and the second time was always harder than the first. The scenario was no different for the 1998 team. The 1998 team cruised through the season, shattering a ton of



Bearcats boost local business

Area businesses credit the increase in sales to the football teams success of winning a national championship

By DEBBIE BACON
NEWS EDITOR

Local businesses reported that Bearcat football boosted sales during the season. Some reported even more of an increase compared to previous years and attributed it to the team's success in winning successive national championships.

Chuck Hetrick, manager of Super 8, said his clientele increased during the fall. He said business always picked up during the football season, but thought it increased even more during the 'Cats' national championship runs.

Hetrick said he thinks all motels in the Maryville area were affected by the football season.

"I think for the most part, it (Bearcat football) has a very positive influence on lodging in the

Maryville community," Hetrick said.

Maria Groumoutis, manager of A&G's Steakhouse, said business increased when there were home games. She also believed more people were coming to Maryville because of the national championships.

According to Shannon Davolt, assistant manager at Country Kitchen, not only Bearcat fans were journeying to Maryville. She said Country Kitchen hosted families of Northwest students and families of the opposing teams.

Since Comfort Inn is right next door, she said business would pick up right after the game as people were returning to the motel. In the morning, customers would also stop in for breakfast before returning home.

Colleen Hastings, director of the Maryville Chamber of Commerce, said more than just restaurants and hotels benefitted from the football season.

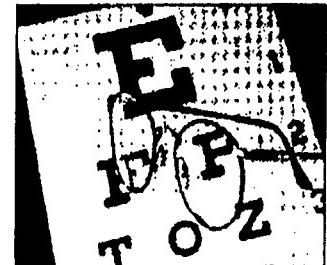
She said that local vendors who normally would not sell Bearcat memorabilia stocked items to cater to the students.

Hastings also attributed part of the boost in sales to the success of the football team. She said there was more opportunity for sales during the post-season when families and fans of the opposing team had to drive longer distances to reach Maryville. Hastings said during conference games, it was easier for people to turn around and go back home after the games, but in the post-season it became more difficult.

Hastings also considered alumni as a factor in booming business. She said alumni took more interest in games once the post-season arrived.

Hastings said alumni were more likely to stay in town longer because they were familiar with the surroundings.

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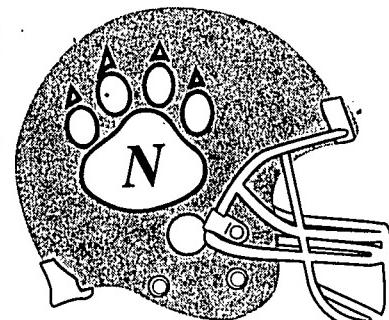
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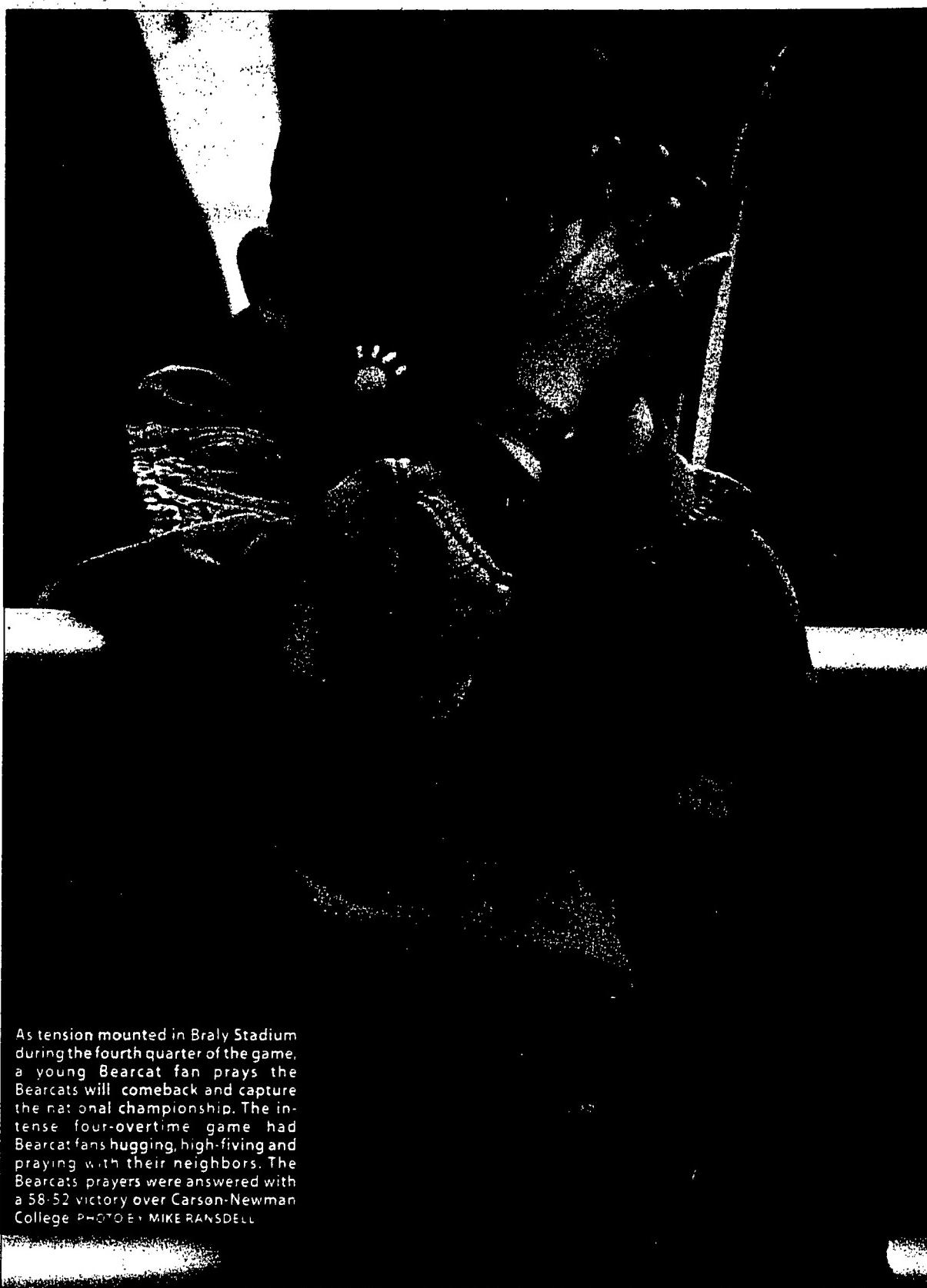
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QUEST OF THE 'CATS



As tension mounted in Braly Stadium during the fourth quarter of the game, a young Bearcat fan prays the Bearcats will comeback and capture the national championship. The intense four-overtime game had Bearcat fans hugging, high-fiving and praying with their neighbors. The Bearcats prayers were answered with a 58-52 victory over Carson-Newman College. PHOTO BY MIKE RANSDELL

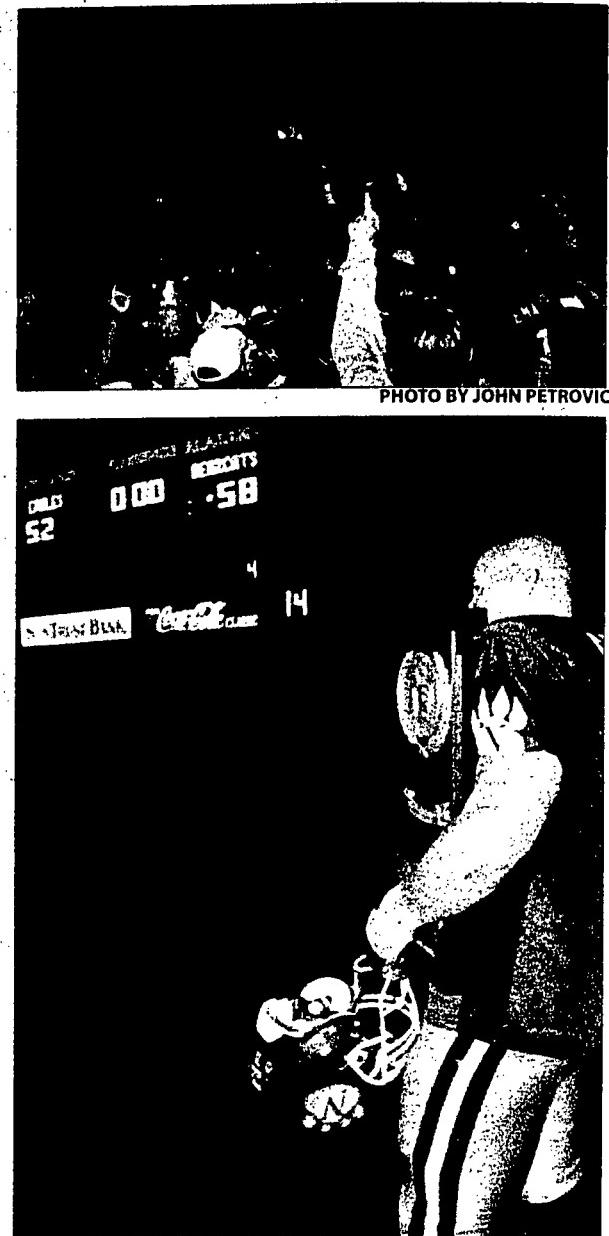


PHOTO BY MIKE RANSDELL



PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC



PHOTO BY MICHAELA KANGER

The Bearcat Marching Band preforms at the tailgate party before the championship game.



PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

Many fans at the championship game in Florence, Ala. showed their Bearcat pride by painting their bodies or making signs to show the national-viewing audience what kind of Division II football fans they were.

After storming the field, players, coaches and fans celebrate the Bearcats' amazing 58-52 come-from-behind victory against Carson-Newman College at mid-field.

Senior offensive lineman Chad Thompson holds the NCAA Division II national championship trophy close to his heart.

Head coach Mel Tjeerdsma receives the NCAA Division II national championship trophy from Marv Kay, chairman of the NCAA Division II Football Committee.

QUEST OF THE 'CATS

offensive records along the way. Eventually the Bearcats made their first appearance in the NCAA Division II National Championship game. Despite a cold, hard rain, Northwest won its first national championship and the rewards came for months afterward.

But the close of the '98 season, also marked the beginning for the '99 team.

The first obstacle for the Bearcats to overcome came in April during the Bearcats' spring practices. Junior cornerback Greg Wayne was diagnosed with low-grade lymphoma cancer. Doctors became aware of it when a small growth was removed from Wayne's groin area. Later, a biopsy revealed cancer cells.

"You're in great shape and you don't think those things are going to happen to you or one of your teammates," head coach Mel Tjeerdsma said. "It makes you aware of the fact that it can happen to anybody at anytime and I think it put everything in perspective. There's more important things than school and football and everything else. Life is pretty precious."

The radiation treatment on Wayne's leg was successful in treating the cancer and Wayne appeared in the Bearcats' first two games. However the incision from the surgery was slow in healing and it put an end to his season.

Wayne's injury was one of a multitude of injuries Northwest had to overcome in '99. On the second day of practice, senior All-America defensive tackle Aaron Becker was lost for the season when he tore his anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee during a practice drill.

After playing a key role in Northwest's come-from-behind win at Pittsburg State University sophomore running back Dan White was sidelined for the season with a foot injury. Then the 'Cats lost junior tight end Mark Maus when he strained his medial collateral ligament during Northwest's 52-0 blowout of Southwest Baptist.

The coaches were about to give Maus a rest and give playing time to younger players, but Maus went down before they could.

"That was just one of those things that made you sick, because we were just about to get him out of there," Tjeerdsma said. "Really, the only reason we had him in there was because we just wanted him to get a little more game experience."

Then, as the 'Cats prepared for Emporia State Univer-

sity, the team had to fill the holes left by injuries to top pass rushers Alan Buckwalter, Matt Voge and Joe Quinlin, and running back Tucker Woolsey.

With the injury to Woolsey, the Bearcats got creative, and used junior offensive lineman Andy Erpelding in short-yardage situations. Once Maus returned, the 'Cats implemented him into the ground attack as well.

"With the injury to Tucker Woolsey, we made adjustments," Woolsey said. "The key was putting Mark Maus at B-back. That made it really tough on the Emporia defense. They didn't know if he was a tight end or a fullback. Defenses substitute and call their defense in relation to our personnel. With Maus in, there were three or four different formations we could be in."

The biggest blow to the Bearcats came the day before the final game of the regular season when Phil Voge, a freshman defensive end and younger brother of Matt Voge, died after injuries he suffered in a car accident.

"We went through an awful lot of emotion in a 24-hour period from the time he passed on Friday afternoon through the game Saturday afternoon," Tjeerdsma said. "It was quite a roller-coaster of emotion. I can't tell you how proud I was of our players. It wasn't easy on them, or any of us. We got some real great leadership from some of our older players that helped us get through it. All of our players committed themselves to giving their best effort and that's what they did."

The Bearcats continued to fight adversity throughout the playoffs. First they fought off North Dakota State and took a 20-13 overtime win. Then in round two, the 'Cats came from behind and upset the University of Northern Colorado. One week later, Northwest beat Indiana University of Pennsylvania to earn a ticket to the national championship game.

It was in Florence, Ala., of course where the 'Cats faced even more adversity and beat the odds in memorable fashion.

"It was a great game," Tjeerdsma said. "I think it took me five minutes or so after the game to realize, 'Yeah, we won a national championship.' It was just the game. It wasn't what was all with it. That was my feelings. It was a much tougher run. There's no doubt about that. Anybody will tell you that who was associated with the team. (In '98) it was a pretty smooth ride and (in '99) there was lots of bumps. But somehow, some way we got over each one of

I can't tell you
how proud I was
of our players.
It wasn't easy on them,

MEL TJEERDSMA



PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

Players kneel at midfield in prayer after a Bearcat football game. The postgame prayer was an integral part of the team's unity. The team members asked for strength and guidance for the

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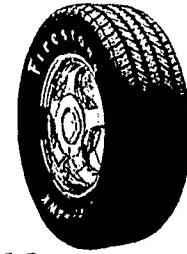
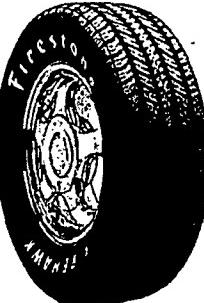
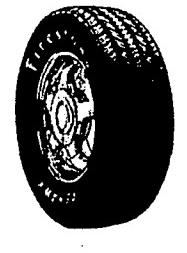
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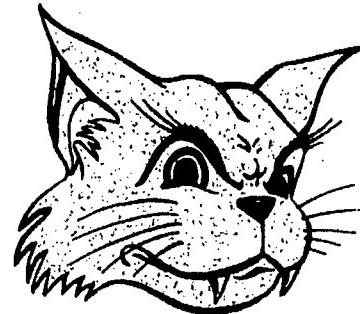
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PHOTO BY AMY ROH

Senior cornerback Charlie Pugh looks upfield for more yardage during a kickoff while junior wide receiver Tony Miles helps with a block. Pugh finished the game with 38 yards on two returns and

one assisted tackle. On the season, he finished with 143 yards on nine returns. He also had 33 tackles including four assisted tackles and he recovered one fumble.

Arkansas Tech

Fans get their first taste of the 1999 Northwest football team when the Bearcats opened their season with a 31-14 victory over the Arkansas Tech University Wonder Boys at Rickenbrode Stadium.

Northwest opened the scoring with a 6-minute, 62-yard drive, and junior running back Tucker Woolsey capped the drive with a 2-yard touchdown run.

However, Arkansas Tech answered quickly. On the ensuing possession, Wonder Boys junior quarterback George Harp found sophomore wide receiver Greg Washington, who broke two tackles and sprinted 89 yards down the left sideline for a score, leaving the game tied at 7-7 midway through the first quarter. But, the defending national champions scored 24 unanswered points and cruised to victory.

Senior kicker Dave Purnell nailed a field goal with 20 seconds left in the first quarter to put Northwest ahead, 10-7. In the second quarter, Northwest drove 71 yards in eight plays and took a 17-7 lead when Woolsey charged into the end zone on an 8-yard run.

Then, with just under a minute remaining in the first half, Arkansas Tech lined up to punt. The snap went over senior punter Chris Taylor's head and

he was tackled behind it in the Wonder Boys' 21-yard line.

It looked as though the Wonder Boys would only give up three points as the Bearcats appeared to line up for a field goal attempt. But senior holder Jeff LeBlanc took the snap and found junior tight end Mark Maus wide open in the end zone for a touchdown off the fake, giving Northwest a 24-7 advantage at the intermission.

Late in the third quarter, Northwest added a touchdown when junior quarterback Travis Miles found junior wide receiver J.R. Hill for a 4-yard scoring strike to make it 31-7. Arkansas Tech added a score late in the fourth quarter on a 27-yard pass from Harp to senior wide receiver Lance Strother, accounting for the final score.

Harp passed for 300 yards against the young Northwest secondary. However, the defense held the Wonder Boys to a total of negative-one yard rushing, breaking a 9-year-old school record. Miles racked up 238 yards, completing 20-of-33 passes, while University of Nebraska-Lincoln transfer Dan White led the 'Cats on the ground with 72 yards.

However, the weeks ahead would pose a much tougher challenge for the defending national champions.



PHOTO BY MIKE RANSDELL

Junior wide receiver Ryan George shows his excitement before the opening game of the season against the Arkansas Tech Wonder Boys.

DEFENSIVE LEADERS		Tackles			Sacks		Pass Def			Fumbles		Bkld
	GP	UT	AT	Total	For Loss	No-Yards	Int-Yards	BrUp	QBH	Rcv-Yds	FF	Kick
Brian Williams	15	80	80	160	12-47	6-30	2-0	4	5	—	3	—
Greg Bonnett	15	57	59	116	2-3	1-4	2-0	2	9	1-0	1	—
Ryan Miller	15	59	39	98	3-4	—	1-14	3	—	2-0	2	—
David Carlson	15	57	36	93	4-9	—	1-4	4	4	—	—	—
Wes Simmons	14	46	51	97	9-29	3-14	1-68	1	3	1-0	1	—
Brian Schertz	15	29	40	69	10-323	6-21	—	1	4	2-0	1	1
Alan Buckwalter	12	39	29	68	13-55	6-43	—	2	12	2-0	5	—
Nick Dowell	15	30	23	53	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Matt Voge	12	28	32	60	13-55	10-52	—	—	5	2-0	—	—
Cole Sidwell	15	30	25	55	7-25	3-17	—	3	13	1-0	—	—
Joe Quinlin	14	31	21	52	3-15	2-13	—	1	7	1-0	—	2
Charlie Pugh	15	37	5	42	—	—	2-1	8	—	1-0	—	—
Grant Sutton	15	21	19	40	1-1	—	—	1	3	—	—	—
Frank Taylor	14	28	10	38	2-9	—	6-94	6	—	—	1	—
Justin Bowser	13	13	26	39	2-3	—	—	1	3	—	—	—
Adam Horn	11	14	22	36	7-36	5-26	—	—	19	2-0	3	—
Tony Sly	13	23	15	38	1-6	—	—	1	—	2-0	—	—
Marcel Smith	13	31	6	37	—	—	2-11	3	—	—	—	—
Geoff Goudge	15	13	15	28	2-5	—	—	3	—	—	3	—
Jason Gassman	12	14	13	27	4-20	3-18	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brandon Simpson	13	17	15	32	7-24	5-21	—	—	10	2-0	—	—
Brandon Roth	7	8	11	19	—	—	—	—	—	1-0	—	1
Philip Seemann	12	10	9	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Adam Crowe	10	9	8	17	2-8	1-6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Devin Doll	9	5	7	12	—	—	—	3	—	1-0	—	—

RUSHING

	G	Att	Gain	Loss	Net	Avg	TD	Long	Avg/G
David Jansen	15	320	1672	56	1616	5.1	20	67	111.5
Ryan Hackett	12	96	600	13	587	6.1	4	47	48.9
Tucker Woolsey	13	60	281	6	275	4.6	3	24	21.2
Dan White	3	35	222	5	217	6.2	0	25	72.3
Tony Miles	15	26	203	17	186	7.2	1	21	12.4

SCORING

	TD	FGs	Kick	Rush	Rcv	Pass	Pts
David Jansen	24	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	144
David Purnell	0	18-27	69-69	0-0	0	0-0	123
Tony Miles	12	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	72
Ryan George	5	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0-0	32
Ryan Hackett	5	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	30
J.R. Hill	5	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	30
Andy Erpelding	4	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	24
Mark Maus	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	18
Tucker Woolsey	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	18
Steve Comer	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	2	0-0	16

RECEIVING

	G	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Long	Avg/G
Tony Miles	15	69	1058	15.3	8	72	70.5
Seneca Holmes	14	39	652	16.7	3	48	46.6
David Jansen	15	39	314	8.1	4	47	20.9
J.R. Hill	12	25	364	14.56	5	34	30.3
Steve Comer	13	21	321	15.3	2	40	25.9

PASSING

	G	Effic	Att-Comp-Int	Pc	Yds	TD	Long	Avg/G
Travis Miles	15	128.00	425-234-20	55.1	3129	27	72	208.6
John McMenamin	8	67.11	17-7-1	41.2	37	1	13	5.3
Chris Burke	5	66.00	9-3-0	33.3	35	0	22	7.0

PUNT RETURNS

	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Tony Miles	27	521	19.3	2	80
Jeremy Nally	4	80	20.0	0	31
Seneca Holmes	4	14	3.5	0	15
Joe Quinlin	1	11	11.0	0	0
Greg Bonnett	1	10	10.0	0	0

KICK RETURNS

	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Tony Miles	24	605	25.2	1	81
Charlie Pugh	11	170	15.5	0	27
Seneca Holmes	10	213	21.3	0	44
T.J. Schneekloth	3	33	11.0	0	17
Nick Dowell	2	9	4.5	0	7

INTERCEPTIONS

	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Frank Taylor	6	94	15.7	1	40
Charlie Pugh	2	1	0.5	0	1
Ryan Miller	2	21	10.5	0	14
Marcel Smith	2	11	5.5	0	11
Brian Williams	2	0	0.0	0	0



PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

Senior defensive end Brandon Simpson(99) recovers a fumble in the third game of the season against Emporia State University. Simpson's first season with the Bearcats was in 1997 after he transferred from Kansas State University. Simpson played in 13 games this season and had a total of 32 tackles for the season.

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PHOTO BY MICHAELA KANGER

Seniors gather on stage at the postgame celebration to receive their diplomas. The team had to leave early Friday morning to make it to the game and were unable to attend graduation in Maryville Friday night.

Final Farewell

Seniors bid a last good-bye in their last game of the season, ending with a national championship

By NICOLE FULLER
COPY EDITOR

As the Bearcats wrapped up the 1999 season by winning their second national championship, it was the final game for 15 seniors.

"I tried not to think of it during the game," senior wide receiver Seneca Holmes said. "I thought most about it during practice the week before. We knew it would be our last college game and practice was a lot better. Our desire was not to go out on a losing note."

Included among the 15 seniors were five that graduated at a special ceremony held at the celebration party in Florence, Ala.

"As a senior I can't think of anything better than to travel to Florence and can't think of a better way to graduate," senior kicker Dave Purnell said. "This is what college football is all about to have won the national championship and get a diploma in the same day. It was very emotional; not crying but high emotion. A dream come true."

Seniors Stand Out

1 Charlie Pugh, cornerback
Richmond

2 Seneca Holmes, wide receiver
Denver, Colo.

8 Scott Courter, wide receiver
Maryville

Dave Purnell, placekicker
Parkville

35 Greg Bonnett, linebacker
Monroe, Iowa

Jeff LeBlanc, punter
Houston, Texas

46 David Carlson, strong safety
Neola, Iowa

Devon Doll, defensive end
Urich

69 Lamont Barrett, offensive guard
Mart, Texas

Chad Thompson, offensive guard
Lexington

87 Alan Buckwalter, defensive end
Palmyra

Adam Horn, defensive end
Maryville

92 Cole Siowell, defensive end
Queen City

Matt Voge, defensive tackle
Calvo, Iowa

99 Brandon Simpson, defensive end
Grandview

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Thursday

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8:00 p.m. Interval/Weights

Friday

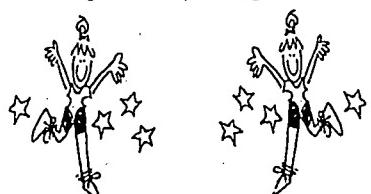
6:00 a.m. All Step
4:30 p.m. Kick-Fit/Weights

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8:30 a.m. Steps & Weights

Sunday

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PHOTO BY MICHAELA KANGER

Head coach Mel Tjeerdtsma addresses the crowd at the Bearcats' postgame party as senior safety David Carlson holds the NCAA Division II National Championship trophy. The postgame celebration was held in the courtyard, bar and lobby of the Ramada Inn in Florence, Ala. Five seniors received their diplomas in a special ceremony at the party.

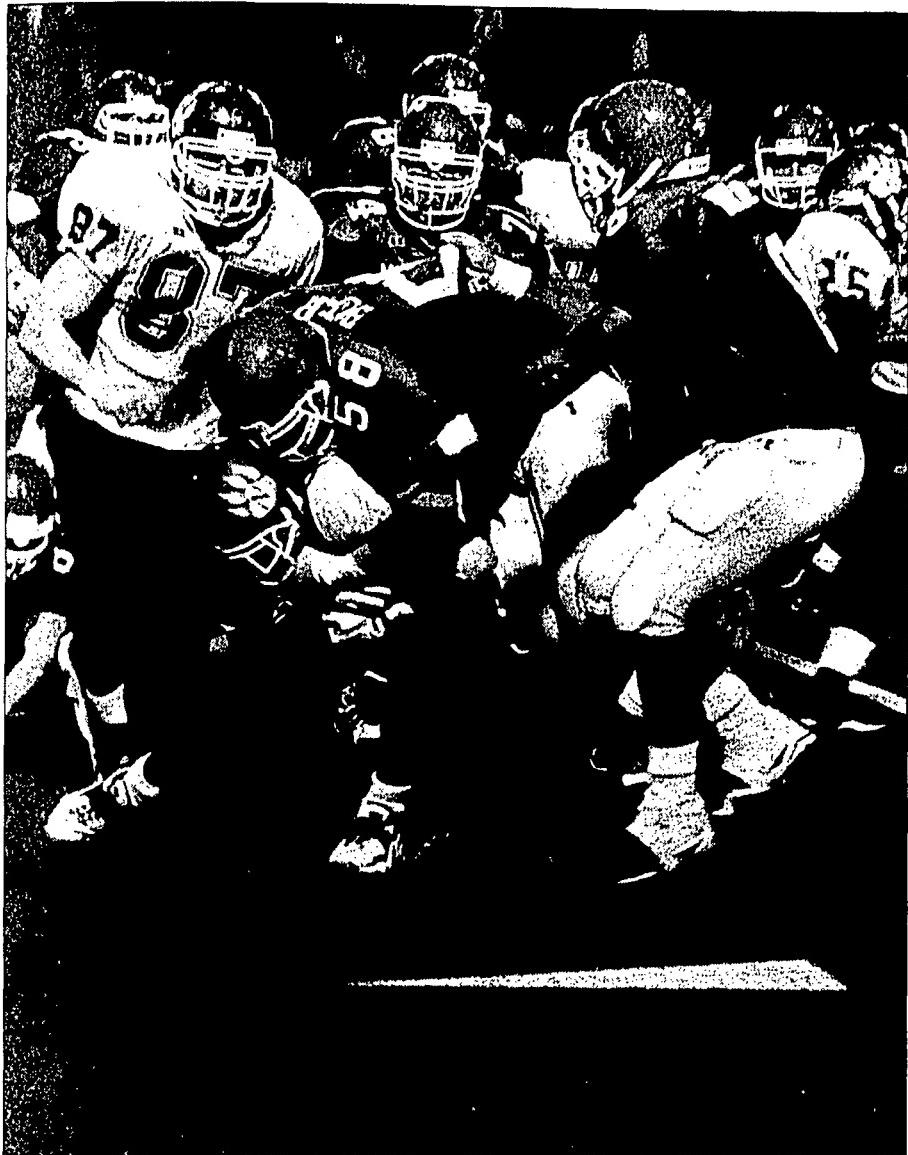


PHOTO BY AMY ROH

JUNIOR

Bearcats shocked by loss at

Amid an estimated 11,500 fans and a hard, fourth-quarter rain, the No. 9-ranked University of Nebraska-Omaha Mavericks shocked the Bearcats and took a 40-17 victory at Al Caniglia Field.

It was Northwest's first loss in 16 games and it knocked the 'Cats from their No. 1 ranking in the NCAA Division II poll. Meanwhile, the Mavericks avenged a 28-14 playoff loss that the 'Cats handed to them in 1998.

Early on, the game looked as though it would be a defensive struggle. However, Nebraska-Omaha quickly turned the game into a blowout, taking a 24-7 halftime lead.

In the second half, the Mavericks continued their scoring binge as junior quarterback Kwanzi Watts sprinted 80 yards for a touchdown to make it 31-7. Then, Northwest made a comeback bid, scoring 10 unanswered points to pull within 14, but that was as close as the 'Cats would get.

The Northwest offense, which was virtually unstoppable during the team's

previous 16 wins, could only muster 250 yards, including just 50 yards rushing. Junior running back Dave Jansen carried the ball only once before leaving the game with a groin injury.

Junior quarterback Travis Miles was chased by the Mavericks' defensive line throughout the game and completed just 9-of-32 passes for 200 yards. He also threw four interceptions.

"They did a lot of mixed coverage and it threw us off," Miles said. "It wasn't anything that we had seen from the film when we played them (in '98). Basically they just took it to us."

Nebraska-Omaha racked up 505 yards on offense, including 225 yards on 11 carries by Watts, who did not even start the game.

Watts and the Mavericks' offense was the difference in the game, head coach Mel Tjeerdsma said.

"I really didn't think that they could put up that many points against us," Tjeerdsma said. "I think (Watts) was the difference in the ballgame. I was hoping they'd put him on the sideline and play that other little guy. He's the kind of guy that makes plays. We didn't do a very good job of tackling him and there's going to be a lot of other people that won't tackle him either."

The Bearcats had two weeks to put the loss behind them and prepare for conference play.

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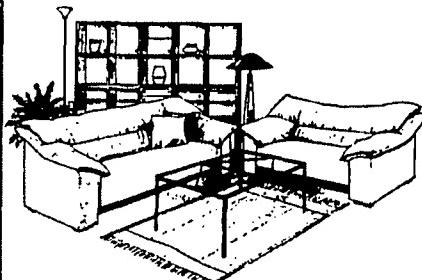
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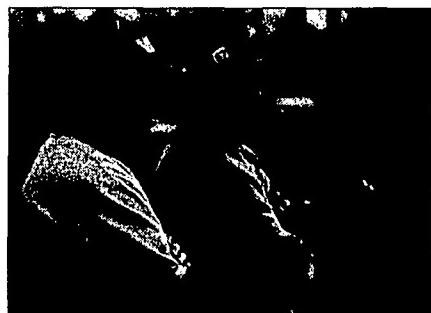
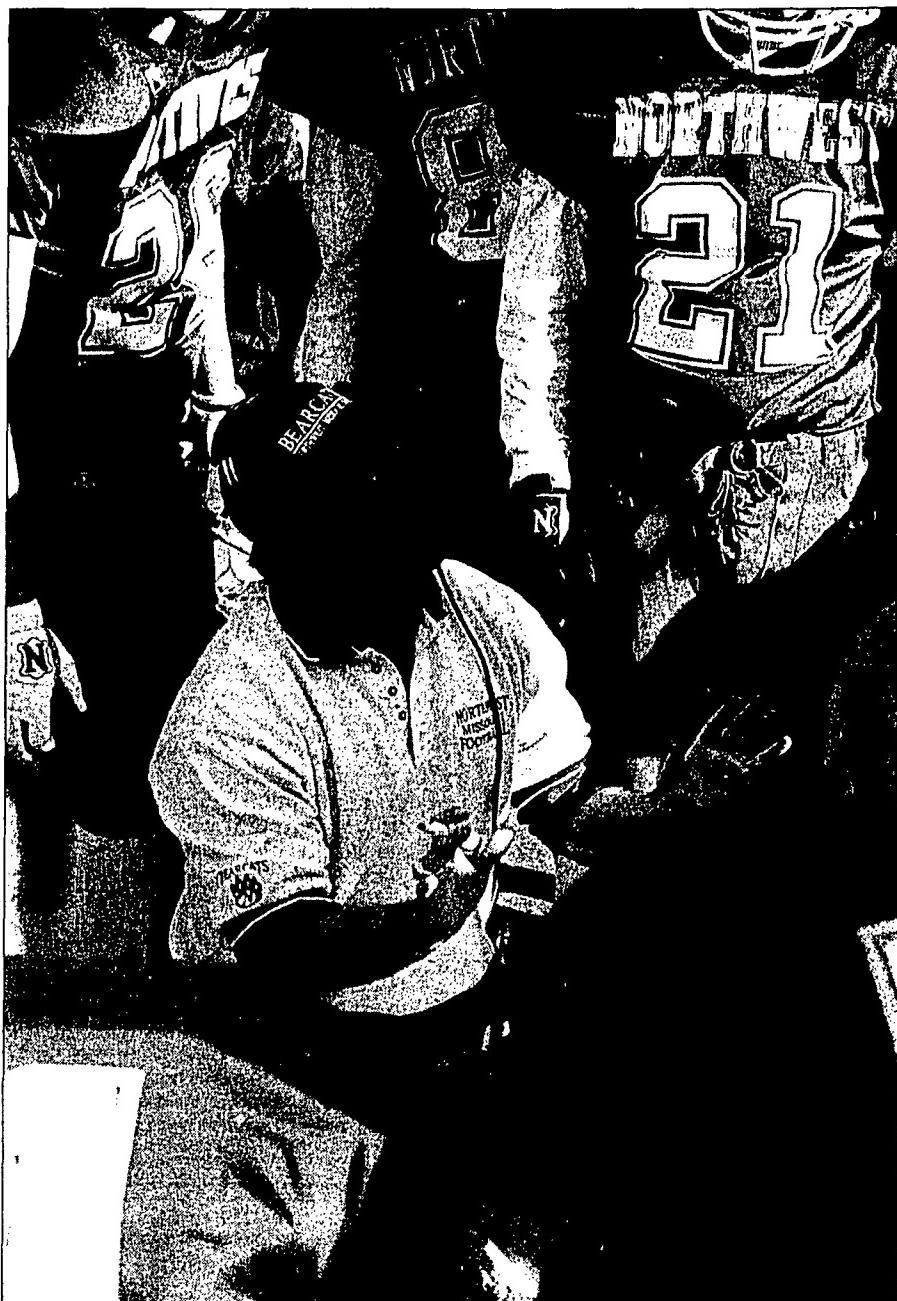
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Offensive line coach Bart Tatum explains strategy to his players during a Bearcat football game. ■ Head coach Mel Tjeerdsma and defensive coordinator Scott Bostwick watch the play in action during the national championship game in Florence, Ala. ■ Head coach Mel Tjeerdsma talks to his players during his regular postgame address.



Mold Men
Coaches dedicate time to players

By MARK HORNICKEL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

If someone drove past Lamkin Activity Center during any night of the week, chances were at least one light was on.

And that light was probably coming from the office of a Northwest football coach. In 1999, the Bearcats coaching staff spent countless hours watching film and planning for practices.

The Bearcats' head coaching staff began its tenure at Northwest in '94. Through it all the staff's main goal remained the same.

"Obviously we're trying to win football games and be good football players, but if our players could be better people, and they could walk out of here and be better people and come back a year or two later, or six months of ten years later and say, 'Thanks for just helping me develop my life,'" head coach Mel Tjeerdsma said. "That was the important thing."

From '94 to '99, the coaching staff led the team to a record of 58-20 and four straight conference championships. What's more, the Bearcats earned a record of 52-4 in four seasons and wins in 42-of-44 regular season games during that span.

"That was quite an accomplishment, and I don't want people to forget that," Tjeerdsma said. "It had only been done by two other schools and it had only been done five times. But we didn't want to be complacent. We wanted to win the title outright."

Fighting complacency, the coaches encouraged the players to stay focused and work hard toward their goals.

For instance, many fans questioned the ability of junior quarterback Travis Miles to lead the Bearcats back to the championship, but Jim Svoboda, offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach, had little doubt that Miles could do the job.

"Working with any quarterback, you just want to make them the best player they can be," Svoboda said. "Travis had the skills to be the type of player that Chris (Greisen) was. I knew he could be a great player and he did a good job."

"He came out right after we won the first championship and gave me a lot. So that made me confident that he could do a lot. In practices, he gave me every indication he would do the job."

The Bearcats also had to fight a great deal of adversity throughout their championship season, but again the coaches were there to motivate them.

"You don't even think about those things," Scott Bostwick, defensive coordinator and linebackers coach, said. "You just take it one week at a time and get ready for the next challenge. You can not look at the big picture and that's one of the greatest things about these kids the last five years is that they just took care of each week and each step. They stayed focused."

When the season came to its amazing culmination and the Bearcats won their second national championship, the feeling could not be described, Svoboda said.

"All we ever tried to do was to be affectionate and score points," he said. "Then you stepped on the field and you stepped back."

QUEST OF THE 'CATS

BEHIND THE SCENES

Bearcat radio NETWORK



PHOTO BY HEATHER EPPERLY

Matt Gaarder and John Coffey broadcast one of Northwest's games over the Bearcat Radio Network. The network was made up of KXCV-KRNW and KNIM. During the championship game WHB out of Kansas City also joined the Bearcat network. The games could also be heard all over the world on Broadcast.com.

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I saw it as a way to reach alums and to reach a larger listening audience and to get the Bearcats out there a little.

KEN WHITE

VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION AND MARKETING

By JOSH FLAHARTY
MANAGING EDITOR

Northwest fans throughout northern Missouri, southern Iowa and around the world got more of an opportunity to listen to coverage of the Bearcats in 1999 with the introduction of the Bearcat Radio Network.

The network was a collaboration of KXCV-KRNW and KNIM radio stations, and was joined by WHB, Kansas City, for the national championship game.

"We're also on Broadcast.com, which we've gotten a great response from alumni around the country," John Coffey, KXCV news director, said.

The broadcasts were compressed and archived on <http://www.broadcast.com> for replay at any time.

Coffey said the archives were available within 30 minutes to an hour after the conclusion of the game.

Ken White, vice president of communication and marketing at Northwest, said an estimated 40,000 people tuned in to listen to games on Broadcast.com.

The idea for the network was originated by White who saw it as a tool to reach more listeners.

"I saw it as a way to reach alums and to reach a larger listening audience and to get the Bearcats out there a little,"

White said.

He said the success of the 1998 season caused more people to tune in and follow the Bearcats.

"Especially with the success of the team, we've been hearing from more alums and residents of the region asking for more coverage," White said.

Before the implementation of the Bearcat Network, games were broadcast solely on KNIM and reached a little past St. Joseph and to the north, Coffey said.

"With the addition of KXCV, which has a 100,000 watt antenna, and KRNW, which has an antenna in Chillicothe, we're able to reach pretty much all of northern Missouri and southern Iowa," Coffey said.

Coaches were able to use the network as a recruiting tool, Coffey said. With the Broadcast.com availability, recruits who lived outside the normal listening area could tune in and listen to the games.

He said the network was a benefit for the students who worked on it as well. They gained the experience of engineering a sports broadcast.

"There's a lot of jobs out there in that area," Coffey said.

White said radio stations in Kansas City and St. Joseph have expressed interest in joining the network.

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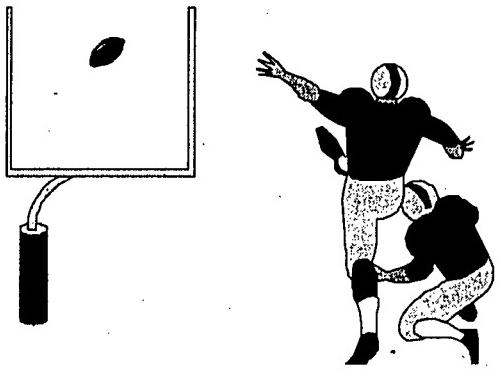
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Bearcat Statistics

TOTAL OFFENSE

	G	Plays	Rush	Pass	Total	Avg/G
Travis Miles	15	402	14	3129	3143	209.5
David Jansen	15	283	1616	25	1641	109.4
Ryan Hackett	12	97	587	0	587	48.9
Tucker Woolsey	13	60	275	0	275	21.2
Dan White	3	35	217	0	217	72.3
Tony Miles	15	28	186	46	232	15.5
Mark Maus	11	19	104	0	104	9.5
John McMenamin	8	23	32	37	69	9.9

TEAM STATISTICS

SCORING

Points per game

FIRST DOWNS

Rushing

Passing

Penalty

RUSHING YARDAGE

Yards gained rushing

Yards lost rushing

Rushing attempts

Average per rush

Average per game

TDs rushing

PASSING YARDAGE

Att-Comp-Int

Average per pass

Average per catch

Average per game

TDs passing

TOTAL OFFENSE

Total plays

Average per play

Average per game

KICKOFF RETURNS: #-YARDS

PUNT RETURNS: #-YARDS

INT RETURNS: #-YARDS

KICKOFF RETURN AVERAGE

PUNT RETURN AVERAGE

INT RETURN AVERAGE

FUMBLES-LOST

PENALTIES-YARDS

Average per game

PUNTS-YARDS

Average per punt

TIME OF POSSESSION/GAME

3RD-DOWN CONVERSIONS

3rd-down pct.

4TH-DOWN CONVERSIONS

4th-down pct.

SACKS BY-YARDS

TOUCHDOWNS SCORED

FIELD GOALS-ATTEMPTS

PAT KICKS-ATTEMPTS

ATTENDANCE

Games/Avg per game

NWMSU

567

37.8

333

163

149

21

3071

3391

320

618

5.0

204.7

36

3292

459-250-21

7.2

13.2

219.5

31

6363

1077

5.9

424.2

53-1053

38-648

16-199

19.9

17.1

12.4

26-11

127-1072

71.5

55-2073

37.7

28:50

83/198

42%

12/21

57%

36-198

73

18-27

69-69

060800

8/7600

77/6587

Ditt State

Northwest rebounds with victory over Pitt State

After their first loss in 16 games, questions surfaced about the Bearcats' ability to bounce back and claim a victory against heated-rival Pittsburg State University in the MIAA opener at Carnie Smith Stadium.

Despite sinking to No. 9 in the NCAA Division II poll, Northwest clawed its way back from a 21-7 halftime deficit and defeated the No. 10-ranked Gorillas, 27-21.

It was all Pitt State in the first quarter as the Gorillas scored touchdowns on drives of 79 and 40 yards to take a 14-0 lead. The Bearcats finally answered

in the middle of the second quarter when junior running back Dave Jansen scored on a 5-yard run, capping a 73-yard scoring drive.

Pitt State scored one more touchdown and had momentum going into the locker room at halftime.

But in the second half, the Bearcats' running game took control. The 'Cats rolled up 200-second-half rushing yards, while Jansen and sophomore running back Dan White combined for 206 yards rushing during the game. Junior running back Tucker Woolsey added 47 yards.

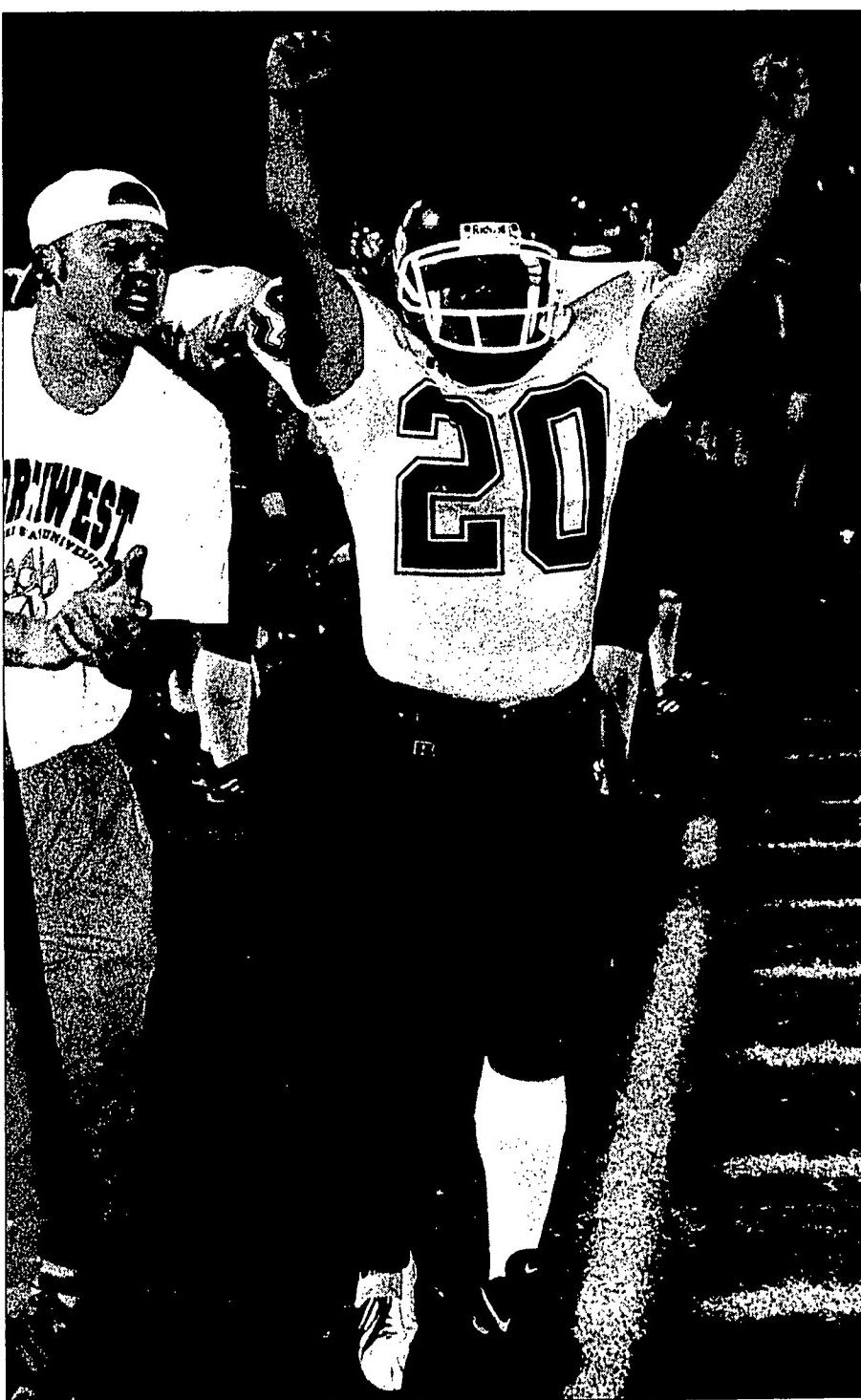


PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC
Senior kicker Dave Purnell celebrates at the end of the Bearcats' win over Pittsburg State University. Purnell ended the game with three field goals from 48, 39 and 34 yards. He finished the season making 12-of-15 field goal attempts with his longest of 48 yards.

"It wasn't so much of a real surprise because we felt as our team evolved that we had a very good offensive line," head coach Mel Tjeerdsma said. "All three of those guys were three good backs that could really make things go in a running game. I was a little bit surprised to have that much success against Pitt because traditionally in the past we had not been able to run the football against them."

"We went into the game saying we need to rush the ball for over 100 yards. We had almost 100 at halftime, and we said we were going to make a little adjustment and run the ball until they stopped us, and they never did."

Jansen scored on a 45-yard run to bring the 'Cats within a touchdown. Then junior quarterback Travis Miles connected with junior receiver Tony Miles to tie the game, 21-21.

"The offensive line was tremendous," Jansen said. "They made huge holes, and we had the receivers blocking down the field, and we could get the rest of the offense going."

Eventually a pair of fourth-quarter field goals by senior kicker Dave Purnell put the Gorillas away.

"We just needed to keep in mind that loss in Omaha," White said. "That can happen at any time. At any given time, a team can lose, even if you're the best."

White, who led Northwest in rushing yards through the first three games of the season, suffered a foot injury against the Gorillas and was sidelined for the remainder of the season. It was just one sample of adversity the 'Cats were forced to overcome.

Wicked

"I'm real hungry," Pittsburg State University junior linebacker Wes Baker said after Northwest became the coaches preseason pick to win the MIAA. "I'm sick of hearing about Northwest Missouri."

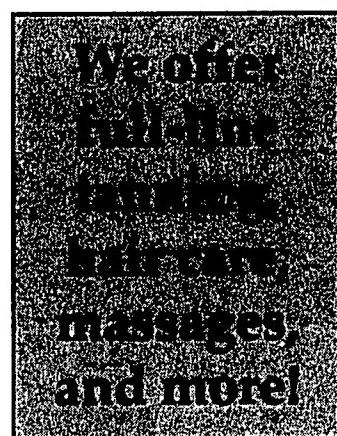
Few people doubted the importance of the rivalry between Northwest and Pitt State. Prior to head coach Mel Tjeerdsma's arrival to Northwest, Chuck Broyles and the Gorillas were king of the MIAA.

The Gorillas were Division II football's all-time winningest team, prior to their matchup with Northwest, with 534 wins. Meanwhile, the game was the 'Cats and Gorillas 29th meeting dating back to 1932.

The 'Cats soon proved who was taking over as the MIAA's top team, eventually winning their fourth-straight conference title.



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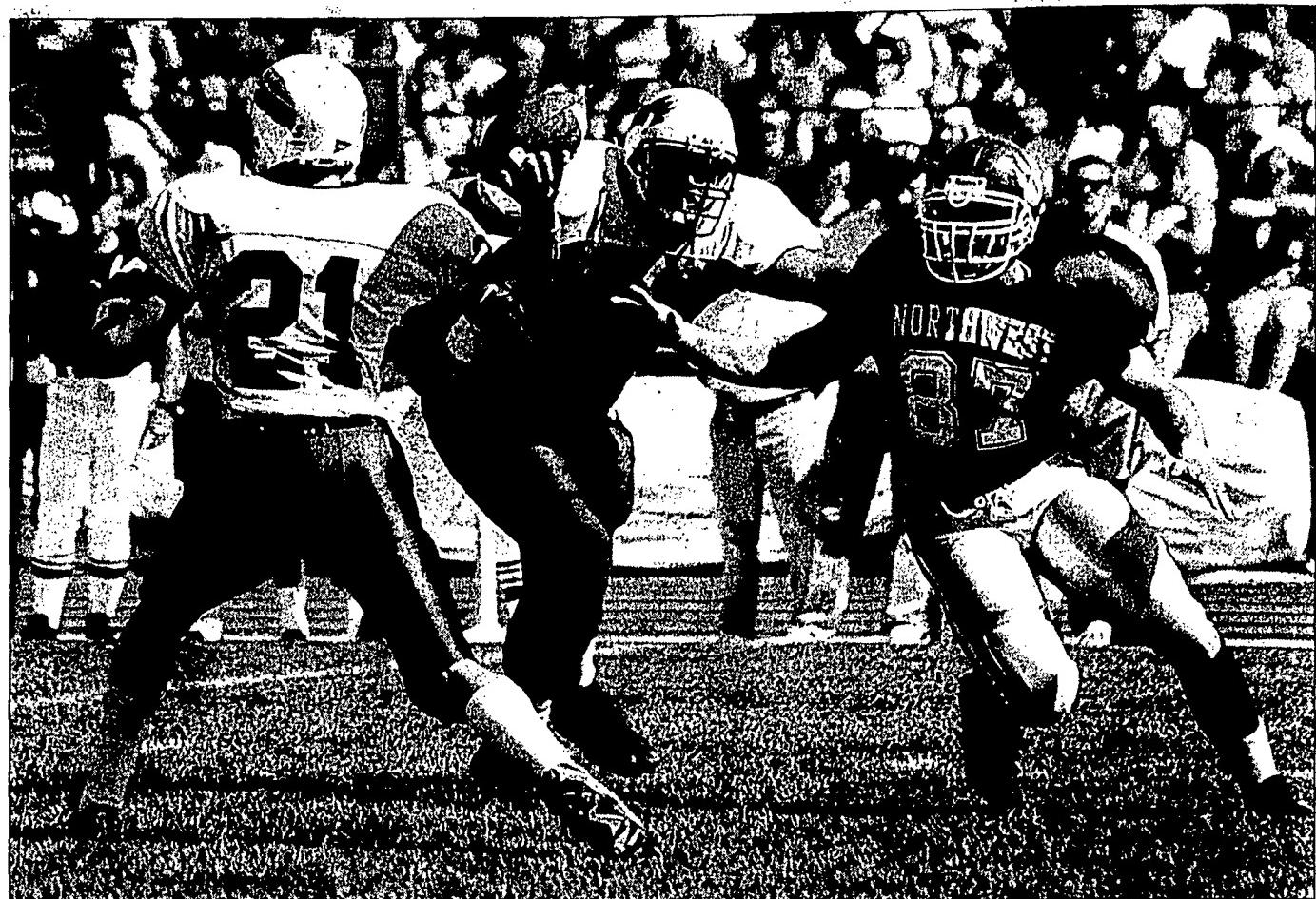


PHOTO BY AMY ROH

Senior defensive end Adam Buckwalter races past a Southwest Baptist University offensive lineman toward the quarterback, attempting to record a sack. Buckwalter finished the game with one

assisted and one unassisted tackle, and for the season he racked up a total of 35 tackles. In his MIAA career, Buckwalter was selected for the second-team All-MIAA at defensive end in 1997 and 98.

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST BEARCATS

In a estimated Family Day crowd of 7,000 people, Northwest recorded its first win over Southwest Baptist University, 52-0, at Rickenbrode Stadium.

The Bearcats recorded their first shutout since 1984 and broke school records, giving up just 20 yards passing and a total output of 53 yards.

Offensively, Northwest rolled up 550 yards, including 387 yards rushing. In addition, sophomore Ryan Hackett had a break-out game, racking up 217 yards on 28 carries.

"Hackett, man, he was unreal," junior quarterback Travis Miles said. "We had Danny White hurt and you've got to give credit to the line again. Hackett ran the ball hard. He deserves it. He's been there every day at practice, and he finally got his day to shine, and he showed everybody what he can do."

The performance was surprising to Hackett himself.

"They told me all week I was going to get quite a bit of playing time, but I didn't expect this big of a day," Hackett said.

Northwest got its scoring started early, going 77 yards in 14 plays and running 6:28 off the clock, before senior kicker Dave Purnell capped the drive with a 22-yard field goal. Minutes later, sophomore cornerback Frank Taylor pulled in an interception and Hackett scored on a 5-yard touchdown run to

give Northwest a 14-0 lead.

Less than a minute later, Southwest Baptist fumbled the ensuing kickoff and junior running back Dave Jansen added a 5-yard scoring run.

Northwest continued to build their lead in the first quarter. Junior wide receiver Ryan George blocked a punt and senior cornerback Charlie Pugh recovered the ball in the end zone, giving the 'Cats a 24-0 lead.

In the second quarter, Jansen capped a 66-yard drive and scored his second touchdown of the day. Hackett and junior running back Tucker Woolsey both added scoring runs in the second quarter, giving Northwest a huge 45-0 halftime lead.

The Northwest offense put its final score on the board when junior tight end Mark Maus scored on a 2-yard run early in the third quarter.

The 'Cats' defense gave up just 33 yards rushing and 20 yards passing, breaking the previous record for total yards given up in a game. The previous record was set in 1983 when the 'Cats allowed 162 against Missouri Western. The record for passing yards given up in a game also fell. The previous record was 38 yards against Lincoln University in 1986.

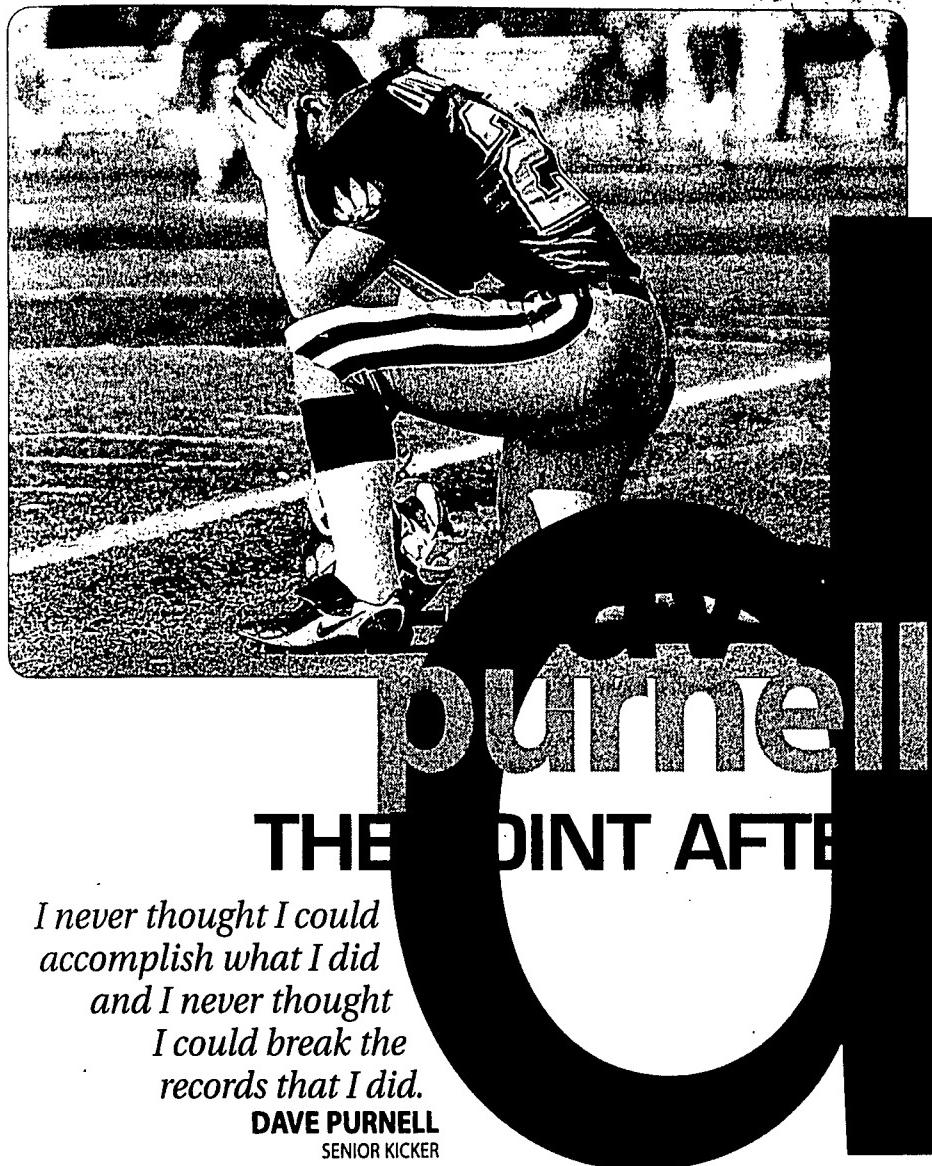
"We went in saying we wanted to win it early," sophomore center Joe Glab said. "The good teams put the games that they're supposed to win away early. We prepared just like anyone else."



PHOTO BY HEATHER EPPERLY

Sophomore running back Ryan Hackett tries to break through the Southwest Baptist University defense during Northwest's 52-0 win. Hackett finished the game with 217 yards rushing and two touchdowns.

QUEST OF THE 'CATS



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and I never thought
I could break the
records that I did.*

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PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

By BLAKE DREHLE
SPORTS EDITOR

Back in 1995, a freshman walked onto the Northwest football program with a strong leg, but no experience in kicking.

Little did anybody know this rugby player from Park Hill High School would leave Northwest as a player who ripped apart numerous school, MIAA, and NCAA Division II records.

"My overall outlook at Northwest is tremendous," Purnell said. "I never thought I could accomplish what I did and I never thought I could break the records that I did. I am real thankful for Coach (Mel) Tjeerdsma and Coach (Jim) Svoboda, who really stuck by me and helped me."

Looking back at his career at Northwest, Purnell said there were plenty of things that

were memorable for him.

"There were many great times in my career that I witnessed — the first being in '96 was watching Jesse Haynes catch the game-winning touchdown against (University of Nebraska-Omaha) to advance to the semifinals," Purnell said.

"The second was being on last year's team and watching (quarterback) Chris Griesen accomplish what he did and the third most memorable thing for me has to be the adversity this year's team overcame. No matter what obstacle we had to overcome, we were able to do that."

Overcoming the stressful situations the '99 team faced was not an easy task, but Purnell said he got through these problems with his faith.

"My biggest ritual was to pray because I felt this

team should put the games and plays in God's hands, because I knew he was going to make it work," Purnell said.

Purnell said the coaches and players on the team played certain roles for him to become the best placekicker in Northwest history.

"The people who I really look up to and think were influential for me were Coaches Tjeerdsma and Svoboda because of the respect people have for them," Purnell said. "Offensive linemen Chad Thompson and Andy Erpelding were humorous in stressful times, defensive linemen Alan Buckwalter and Matt Voge and linebacker Brian Williams had the focus of the team to repeat as national champs and wide receivers Seneca Holmes, J.R. Hill and Tony Miles had the finesse to make plays and avoid tackles."

Overcoming the stressful situations the '99 team faced was not an easy task, but Purnell said he got through these problems with his faith.

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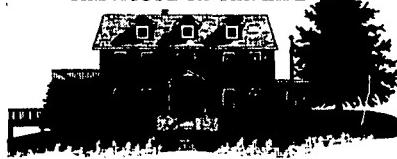
QUEST OF THE 'CATS

BEHIND THE SCENES

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NORTHWEST
MISSOURI
BEARCATS**

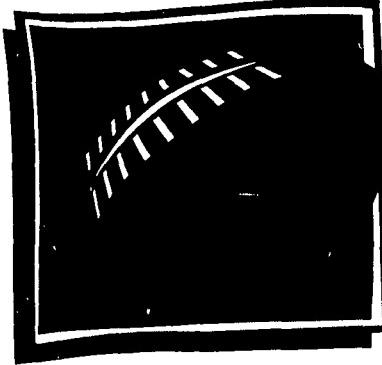
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Assisting the INJURED

By NICOLE FULLER
COPY EDITOR

Hidden on the sidelines among the football players, coaches and staff was a team of people whose sole purpose was maintenance for the team.

The athletic training staff not only worked with the injured, but in a variety of different ways assisted the team.

"With football it is really demanding because there are so many people to work with," Kelly Archer, senior athletic trainer said. "You're working with over a hundred guys and it's just a lot of hard work, but it is so worthwhile."

Besides working in the morning with athletes who were on different treatments and programs, the trainers usually began around 1 p.m. Like the football team, the athletic trainers were at every practice.

"We will first do treatment of athletes that need it and then while they are in meetings we will set up all the coolers," Archer said. "And I'm talking tons of coolers, tons of water and tons of ice because during practice it is important that we keep them hydrated."

"I know we are there to watch and wait for an injury to occur. That is our key thing, but also in athletic training



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE AHRENS

Trainer Rachel Courtney helps senior wide receiver Seneca Holmes stretch out his hamstring during a Bearcat football game this past season. The trainers were not only at every game, but were also at every practice as well. The athletic training staff consisted of 17 people. Dr.

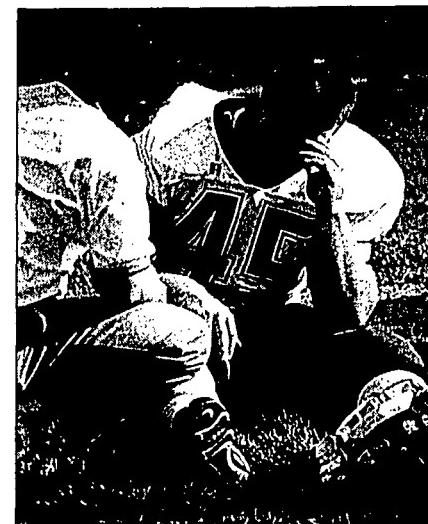


PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

Head athletic trainer Dave Colt tends to junior running back Tucker Woolsey during the game against University of Missouri-Rolla. Woolsey was checked out and eventually returned to the game. During the games, the trainers were assigned certain areas.

you want to prevent injury, so to prevent it you want to keep them hydrated."

In addition to keeping the water stocked, they made sure the medical kits were supplied and in place for practice.

During the game the trainers were assigned to work certain areas. Whether it was getting the locker room ready for halftime, going out onto the field for timeouts or following the offense or defense, each person had an assignment.

"I was assigned the offense, but there was always someone who needed to be retaped or always needing stretched," Archer said. "Basically what I do is I have certain people that I focus on because I know they have an injury or I know there is something that they are going to need during the game. So I just keep focused on those people but always keep my eye on the field. You never let your eye off the field because once you do, you are going to miss something that happened. The key is whenever you are watching the game, you watch the mechanism of the injury. So if something was to happen you know how it happened and know how to assess the injury."

For Dave Colt, head athletic trainer, it was more than working with just the football team.

"I travel with the football team and basketball team but I'm ultimately responsible for all," Colt said.

Colt said it takes a lot of time and a lot of energy.

"Football takes up the most energy," Colt said. "Like every other sport, it's very rewarding in what we do though."

For Archer the greatest reward was the appreciation the trainers got from the athletes.

"What's so great about it though is just the thank you or the smile of the 'I really appreciated what you have done,'" Archer said. "That is what means so much. You work your tail off and whenever they just say 'thank you' it is just worth it all."

Archer said the friendships she has made and the people she has worked with are amazing. They are the greatest guys to work with, she said.

"The experiences I have had with them are amazing just because I got to be with them at the national championship last year and was on the sideline with them this year too," Archer said. "It's been overwhelming."

Senior defensive tackle Aaron Becker said a lot of credit goes to Dave Colt, D.J. Gililand, Denise Schoenborn and the student trainers.

"With all sports we take them for granted," Becker said. "I know I com-

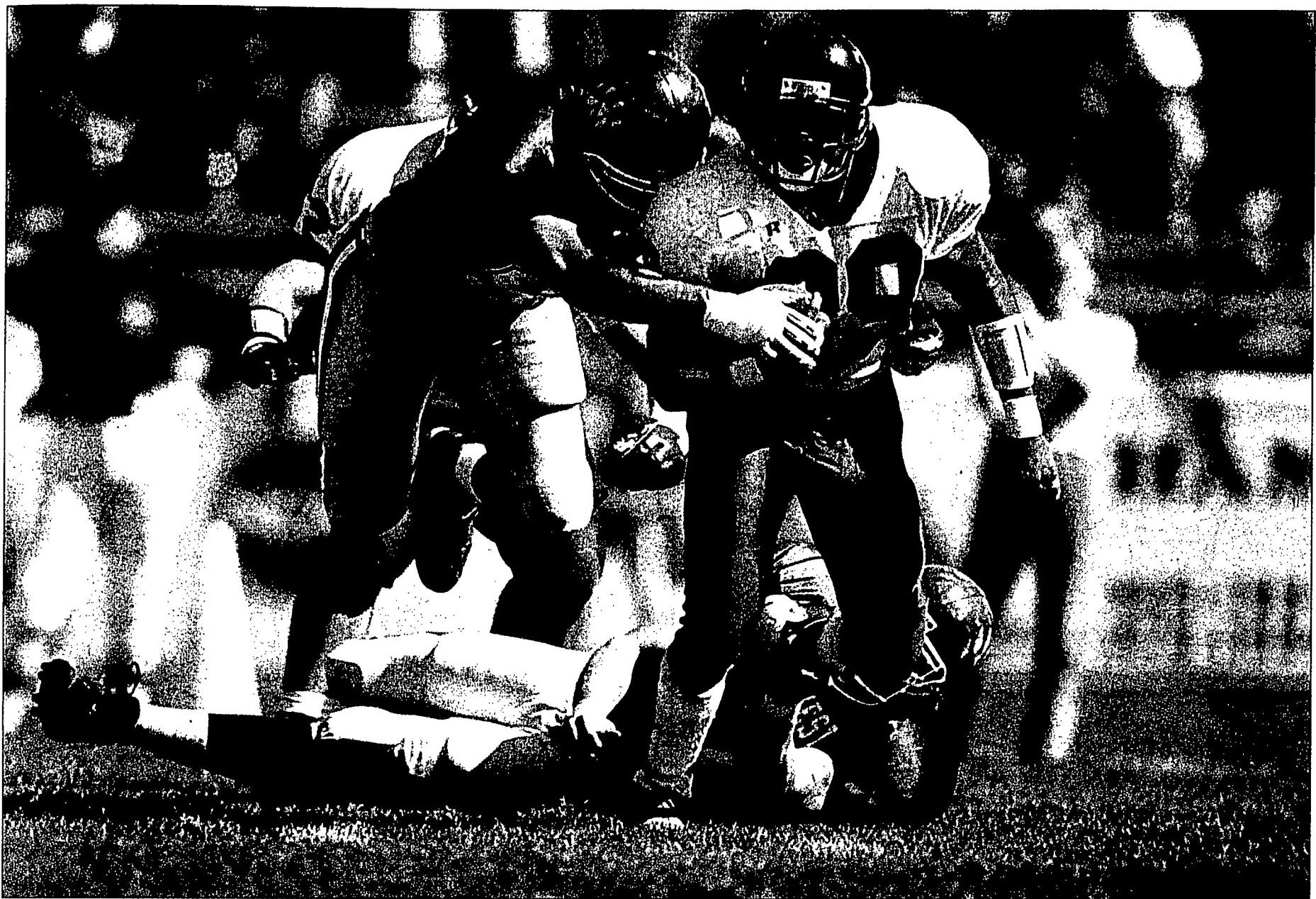


PHOTO BY JASON MYERS

Senior defensive end Adam Horn tackles senior running back Deric Johnson during the Bearcats' 42-32 victory over the Truman State University Bulldogs at Rickenbrode Stadium. Horn finished the game with one tackle for a loss of three yards. With the win, the 'Cats kept

the Old Hickory Stick for the fourth-straight season. The Hickory Stick is a symbol of the continuing rivalry between Truman State and Northwest. It is a tradition that began in 1931 and is the oldest trophy game in NCAA Division II football history.

Truman State

Lots retain Hickory Stick in '99

Northwest improved to 8-0 in the MIAA and claimed the top spot in the conference with a hard-fought 42-32 victory over Truman State University at Rickenbrode Stadium.

Although the Bearcats retained the Old Hickory Stick, the Bulldogs put a scare into Northwest on the first play from scrimmage. Bulldog sophomore quarterback Eric Howe connected with sophomore wide receiver Kevin Collins on an 80-yard touchdown bomb, giving Truman State a 7-0 lead. But the 'Cats tied the score late in the first quarter when junior wide receiver Tony Miles made a diving catch in the back of the end zone to tie the game, 7-7.

Then junior running back Dave Jansen gave the Bearcats a 14-7 lead with a 6-yard touchdown run on the last play of the opening quarter. Northwest took a 14-10 lead into halftime after Truman State senior kicker Jeff Klee hit a 37-yard field goal.

In the third quarter, the teams traded

two touchdowns each and Northwest took a 28-23 lead after Truman State's failed two-point conversion attempt. But the Bulldogs pulled to within two points, 28-26, when Klee made another field goal late in the third quarter.

In the fourth quarter, Northwest began to put the game away. Jansen scored his third touchdown of the day and capped a nine-play, 80-yard drive to make the score 35-26. After the Bearcat defense forced a punt, Miles put the game away with a 78-yard punt return, notching his third touchdown of the day.

While, Truman State blocked a punt for a touchdown late in the game, head coach Mel Tjeerdsma thought the 'Cats took the game a little too lightly.

"I think we thought the hay was in the barn and we could wind her down early," Tjeerdsma said. "Those things catch up with you. We were fortunate to get out with a win. And hopefully, we'll learn from this. I was hoping (Uni-

versity of Nebraska-Omaha) would be the only learning experience we needed."

Junior quarterback Travis Miles passed for 217 yards, while completing 19-of-29 passes with two interceptions. Jansen racked up 200 yards on 24 carries to lead the Bearcat ground attack.

Tony Miles made seven catches for 111 yards and two touchdowns, in addition to the punt return for a score. His performance earned MIAA Offensive Player of the Week honors.

"It was an honor for me," Miles said. "It was another trophy on my mom's wall. It showed that we had guys on our team that could play with the best in the league."

Howe had a huge day for Truman State with 353 yards and three touchdowns on 24-of-47 passing with two interceptions. But, despite the Bulldogs' strong offensive showing, the 'Cats took the Hickory Stick for the fourth consecutive season.

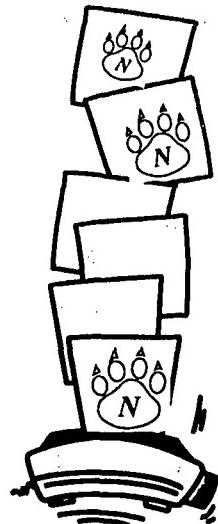
Hickory Stick

As the oldest trophy game in NCAA Division II football, the Old Hickory Stick defined the rivalry between Northwest and the Truman State University Bulldogs.

The legend of the Hickory Stick began when Northwest president Uel Lamkin found the stick on a farm in the Maryville District, which was the birthplace of then-Northeast Missouri State president Eugene Fair.

The two schools began playing for the 34-inch long stick in 1931 and Northwest took a 7-0 victory. In the games that followed, the Bulldogs built a 41-19-4 advantage, but with a 42-32 victory in '99, the Bearcats took the Hickory Stick for the fourth straight time.

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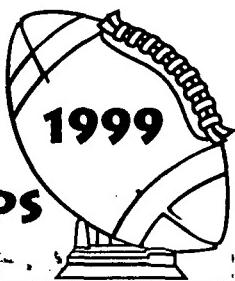


PHOTO BY MIKE RANDELL
Junior running back Dave Jansen runs upfield and tries to elude sophomore linebacker Wes Smith during the Bearcats' 38-34 win over the Missouri Western State College Griffons. Jansen

Cats hang on to beat

The U.S. Highway 71-rivalry was in high gear when Northwest took on Missouri Western State College at Spratt Memorial Stadium.

The seventh-ranked Bearcats used a big first half and hung on in the second half to take a thrilling victory away from the arch-rival Griffons.

Northwest got on the board when junior outside linebacker Wes Simmons returned an interception 68 yards for a touchdown.

"Missouri Western always starts out fast and I think we needed something to slow them down a little bit," Simmons said. "So we were concentrating on doing something to stop the momentum right away. I was a little bit surprised. I was covering that guy and he wasn't open, but they threw it anyway."

Junior running back Dave Jansen added a 47-yard score on a screen pass from junior quarterback Travis Miles and the Bearcats had a 14-0 lead after one quarter.

In the second quarter, each team put 21 points on the board, but Northwest held a 35-21 advantage at halftime.

Eventually, Missouri Western started bidding for an upset, scoring 13 unanswered points during the first five minutes of the fourth quarter and cutting the 'Cats lead to one point, 35-34.

After a Northwest punt, the Griffons offense took over and looked to take the lead. However, sophomore safety Frank Taylor picked off a pass, giving the momentum back to Northwest.

The 'Cats put together a 9-play drive and took time off the clock. Then with 1:37 left in the game, senior kicker Dave Purnell nailed a 45-yard field goal to give Northwest a 38-34 lead.

Missouri Western still had time to score and sophomore quarterback Kasey Waterman quickly completed a 14-yard pass. However that was all the Griffons would get as the Northwest defense followed with sacks by junior linebacker Brian Williams and senior

defensive tackle Matt Voge. Then on fourth-and-14, senior defensive end Alan Buckwalter recorded a sack on Waterman, forcing a fumble. Senior defensive tackle Cole Sidwell recovered the ball, sealing the victory for the 'Cats.

Jansen led Northwest on the ground with 156 yards on 21 carries. He scored four times, all in the first half, including a 47-yard touchdown pass and a 45-yard run.

The game was closer than the 'Cats would have liked, but the team kept its hold on the top spot in the conference, and on this night, it was the defense that deserved the credit.

"I wish the team would have played a little bit better," Simmons said. "Bottom line is people made plays when they had to, and that was the difference in the game. Frank Taylor's interception was a real big play. Buckwalter came up big there at the end, and Brian Williams had huge sacks. Whenever we needed

Running

The game ball used in Northwest's 38-34 victory over Missouri Western State College was delivered to Spratt Stadium in a unique way.

In order to raise money for the Special Olympics, members of the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity at Northwest and Missouri Western ran a relay with the ball, starting at Rickenbrode Stadium.

The ball traveled 45 miles, and prior to the game, representatives from each school's chapter delivered the ball to the game officials.

By BLAKE DREHLE
SPORTS EDITOR

On the field he was one of the most ruthless, outspoken leaders who punished opposing quarterbacks and running backs everytime they ran up the middle. But off the field he was a simple man who only wanted to enjoy life.

"I stress a humble life off the football field because that is who I am," he said.

Junior middle linebacker Brian Williams was a clear-cut leader of the 1999 Northwest defense, not because he was forced to be, but because his position was considered the motivator of the defense.

"I stepped up because the middle linebacker is supposed to be the backbone of the defense," Williams said. "If there isn't a good motivator on the defense you're not going to make it very far in the conference."

Coming into the season Williams led the team with 160 tackles, contributed six quarterback sacks and two interceptions. His name was not brought up much when people discussed the Northwest defense because of the returning seniors the 'Cats had.

"Last year, people didn't know me and I didn't receive that much hype because of the playmakers that were already on the team, but that wasn't a problem for me because I knew I could make some impressions," Williams said.

When the 'Cats lost seniors cornerback Greg Wayne and All-America defensive tackle Aaron Becker, Williams said he knew it was his time to step up.

"It was definitely a concern losing Becker and Wayne because we had a real, real good defense returning," he said. "I knew if I didn't step up and become a vital leader on the field things wouldn't go as good. But what I really missed about losing Becker was the double-teaming offensive linemen did on me."

The injuries to Becker and Wayne were just the start of the injuries and adverse conditions the 'Cats defense had to face. Williams said players had to really dig deep and look at what they could do to get victories after the early season loss to the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

"After the UNO loss there was a change of at-



PHOTO BY AMY ROH

titude in play and tighter practices because we had to do what Northwest football can do — win," Williams said.

As the season progressed and things became more positive for the team, the untimely death of freshman teammate Phil Voge was something that brought the defense closer, Williams said.

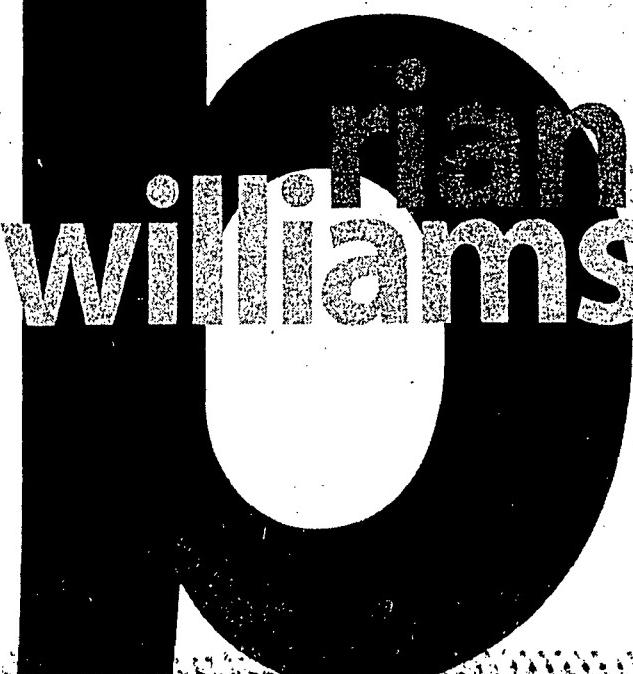
"We had been going through so much all season and going through blow after blow, but the death of Phil was devastating," he said. "We knew when someone goes through a loss like Matt did, you need to give them time and by doing this I think we became stronger."

Williams said it was exhilarating to participate in the NCAA Division II playoffs, but the most exciting game for him was the quadruple-overtime victory in the national championship game.

"I will never forget the madness of the national championship game because it was the best game I have ever seen and even determined to be," Williams said. "The fans for-



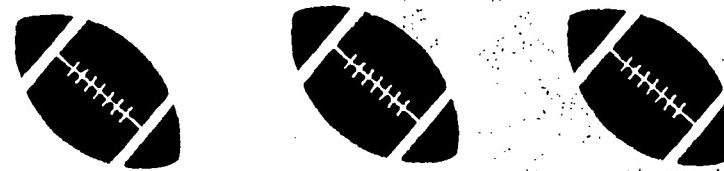
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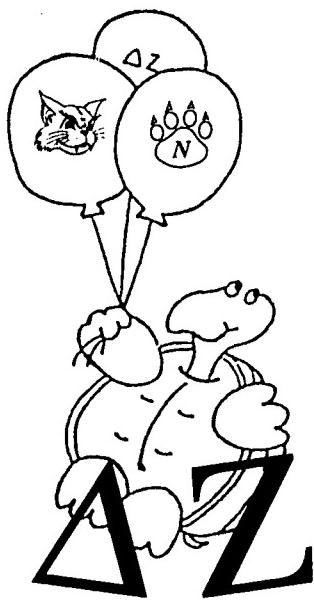
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QUEST OF THE 'CATS

**Way to Go,
Bearcats**

The women of DELTA ZETA would like to congratulate the 1999 National Champions Bearcats on a remarkable season!

By BLAKE DREHLE
SPORTS EDITOR

When one thought of what won a football game, most people usually said it was the offense or defense, but people forget one part of the game.

The Northwest special teams unit put up big numbers, crunching hits, long punts and record-breaking point-after-attempts and field goals to help the 'Cats win their second-consecutive national championship.

Senior kicker Dave Purnell and junior wide receiver Tony Miles were just two players that competed vigorously in helping Northwest be the best at all sides of the ball.

"We were a threat everytime we were on special teams because everybody wanted to make every aspect of our game strong," head coach Mel Tjeerdsma said.

Purnell produced another exceptional year for Northwest by continuing to break Northwest and NCIAA Division II records.

Those records included career PATs (219) and he scored the most consecutive PATs in a season with 56. He also recorded the most consecutive PATs in a career with 60 and most career points scored by a kicker with 426.

Tony Miles played a potent force for the special teams, returning punts and kickoffs during several critical times in the season, playoffs and the championship game.

"We called him the playmaker because when we needed someone to make a play, he was there to make them because that was the type of player he was," junior quarterback Travis Miles said.

When returning kickoffs, Tony Miles gained 605 yards on 24 returns and had one touchdown while he returned 27 punts for 521 yards and two touchdowns.

Miles credited his success to his quickness and agility, and for him to have a good return he had to always think before he acted.

"I am a little guy and as a little guy I feel that if I could make the little guys miss making a tackle on me, I could make the big guys miss," Tony Miles said. "That is what I concentrate on is to make the speedy little guys miss so then I could outrun the big guys."

Besides Purnell and Miles, there were many players who stepped up and helped the special teams unit become a strong part of the team.

Senior punter Jeff LeBlanc averaged 38 yards a boot on 54 punts, and six were touchbacks. He also recorded the highest average per punt for any 'Cat punter since 1990.

Helping Tony Miles return kickoffs was senior cornerback Charlie Pugh, who averaged 15 yards on 11 kickoffs, and senior wide receiver Seneca Holmes, who averaged 21 yards on 10 kickoffs.

Others who delivered for the 'Cats special teams were those who came up with the big tackles and blows, Purnell said.

"I felt our special teams was the best in the nation," he said. "I just kick the ball, but players like (junior cornerback) Nick Dowell, (junior linebacker) Joe Quinlin and (sophomore safety) Philip Seeman would go down and sacrifice their bodies to make a tackle and they loved it. It was suicide seeing these guys going down the field to make the tackle, but they thrived on this and they made the plays. These guys deserve as much credit as anyone else on the team."



UNSUNG heroes

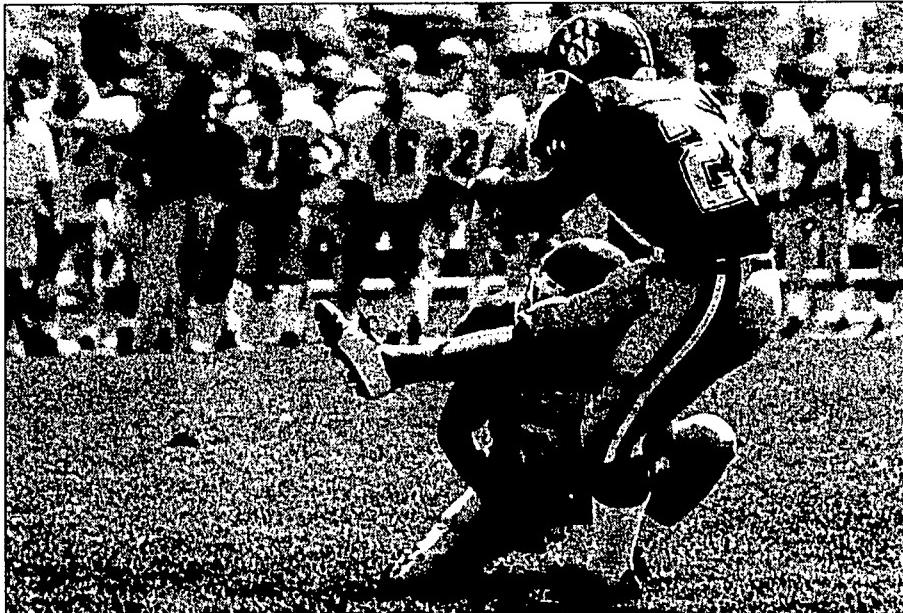


PHOTO BY AMY ROH

Senior kicker Dave Purnell attempts a field goal in a regular season game. He finished the season second in scoring for the 'Cats with 124 points. He was a perfect 69-69 in point-after-attempts and 18-of-27 field goal attempts.

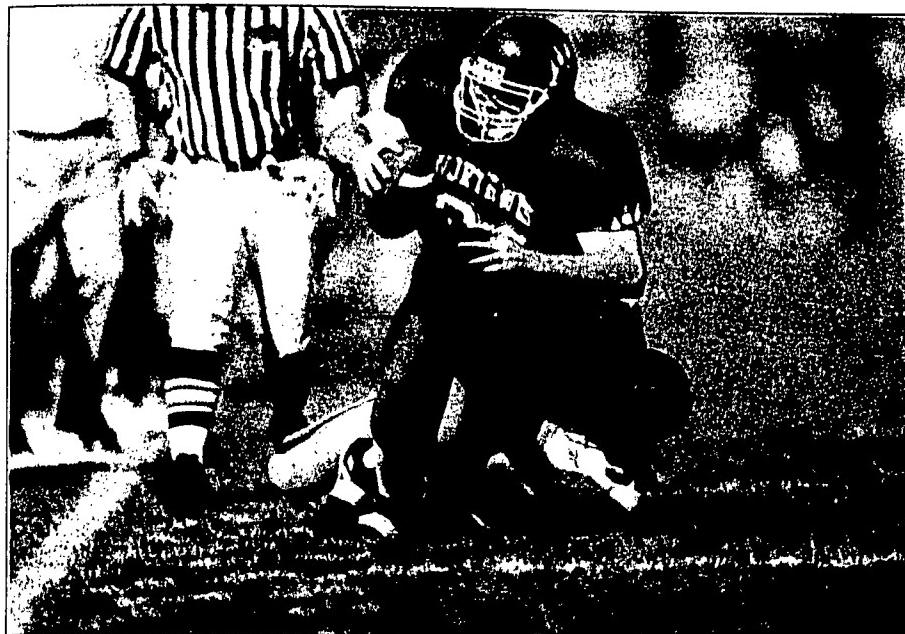
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QUEST OF THE 'CATS



Junior tight end Mark Maus gets taken down by a Missouri Southern State College defender for a positive gain of 14 yards.

PHOTO BY JASON MYERS

Maus finished the game with one reception and 14 yards. He racked up 104 rushing yards and three touchdowns on the season.

Southern

Homecoming game brings victory over Northwest

The No. 7-ranked Lions used the coin toss to their advantage to beat Missouri Southern State College and the wind during the annual Homecoming contest at Rickenbrode Stadium.

With an estimated 8,250 fans in attendance, Northwest won the toss and gave Southern the ball in order to have the 25-30 mile per hour wind at its back early. The plan paid off and Northwest averaged a starting point of the 50-yard line to tame the Lions, 52-13.

"I just really thought it was going to be a factor early, especially going against Southern because they are a ball-control type team," head coach Mel Tjeerdsma said. "If you can pin them down there and make a short field, then maybe you can get a few scores early, and I feel like any time you're going against a ball-control team, if you can get them down a couple of touchdowns, then you're fine."

With the team clicking on both sides

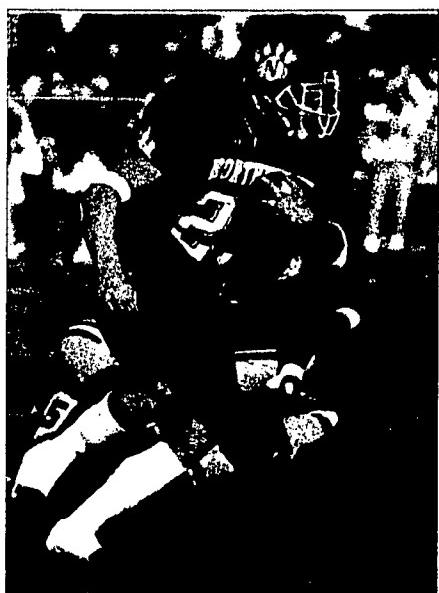


PHOTO BY AMY ROH

Junior running back Dave Jansen looks for extra yards during the Bearcats' win over Missouri Southern State College.

of the ball, the Bearcats scored on their first three possessions of the game.

"It was kind of our break-out game if you want to call it that," junior quarterback Travis Miles said. "We finally put two halves together on both sides. It had been one game where we had one half defense and then one half the other. We finally put that together and I think that was the important thing."

After a three-and-out by the Bearcat defense, Northwest took over at Southern's 45-yard line for its opening drive. Eight plays later, junior wide receiver Ryan George hauled in a four-yard pass from Travis Miles and Northwest was on the board. Then junior wide receiver Tony Miles hauled in a 24-yard touchdown pass, giving the 'Cats a 14-0 lead.

Northwest added to its total when Travis Miles hit Tony Miles with an 11-yard touchdown pass just minutes into the second quarter.

Southern broke onto the scoreboard with 2:16 remaining in the half, but the Bearcats scored 10 points in the final 1:30 of the half to go ahead 31-7 at halftime. From there, the 'Cats cruised to the win, outscoring Southern 21-6 in the second half.

Tony Miles was honored after the game with the Don Black trophy, the award given annually to the outstanding player in the Homecoming game. Tony Miles pulled in seven passes for 93 yards and two touchdowns. He also returned three punts for 91 yards, including a 46-yarder, and he blocked an extra-point attempt.

"The only thing you have to do is catch the ball and run," Tony Miles said of his punt returns. "You gotta have a lot of confidence. When I caught it, basically I just ran. I didn't have to make very many people miss because they were doing such a great job blocking."

Junior running back Dave Jansen had 18 carries for 141 yards on the day, scoring one touchdown. Meanwhile, Travis Miles completed 13-of-26 passing attempts for 163 yards. He also passed for four touchdowns.

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PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

Junior cornerback Nick Dowell eyes the Emporia State University running back, as he attempts to make a tackle. Dowell finished the game with three unassisted and two assisted tackles. He had a season

total of 42 tackles. Dowell was an all-conference defensive back at Highland Community College and played spring ball at the University of Kansas before transferring to Northwest.

Northwest scores early and blows out Emporia

Despite the buzz of the Emporia

State University Hornets' Homecoming and five Bearcat players being sidelined with injuries, Northwest scored a 59-28 blowout at Welch Stadium.

For the second-consecutive week, the seventh-ranked 'Cats jumped out to an early lead and never looked back, gaining 504 total yards of offense.

Northwest began by driving 85 yards in seven plays and junior running back Dave Jansen scored on a 10-yard run. Sophomore safety Tony Sly then recovered the ensuing kickoff when no Emporia State return man went after it. The play led to another touchdown for Jansen, and the 'Cats led 14-0 with less than four minutes into the game.

Eventually junior wide receiver Ryan George scored on a seven-yard touchdown pass and junior offensive lineman Andy Erpelding scored from one yard out, giving the 'Cats a 28-0 lead at the end of the first period.

With junior running back Tucker Woolsey sidelined with a knee injury, it was Erpelding who got the nod.

"We needed a big back on short-line scrimmage, and I was lucky enough to get the call," Erpelding said. "We prepared real well against them, and we knew we had to come out and play as best we could."

Doubts surfaced as to how the defense would perform against the pass since injuries kept top rushers Alan Buckwalter, Matt Voge and Joe Quinlin out of the game. Still, the defense came up with the needed big plays.

"We knew as a whole defense we had to step up and not allow Emporia's offense to make the plays," senior defensive lineman Brandon Simpson said. "I just wanted to go out there and do my

part in getting the win."

By halftime, the Bearcats built a 45-14 lead.

In the second half, senior kicker Dave Purnell notched a field goal and another Erpelding touchdown made it 52-14, before the starters were sidelined for the rest of the day.

Miles passed for 287 yards and three touchdowns in the game, while completing 16-of-23 passes. Jansen rushed for 104 yards on 21 carries and junior

Tony Miles reeled in five passes for 119 yards.

Meanwhile, playoff scenarios started looming as Northwest's Midwest regional rivals tried to grab playoff spots. The University of Nebraska-Omaha and previously undefeated North Dakota State each suffered losses. The University of Northern Colorado claimed the top spot in the region and Northwest's win over Emporia State propelled the 'Cats to the No. 2 spot.



PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

Sophomore running back Ryan Hackett dodges an Emporia State University Hornet defender while going up field. Hackett finished the game with 68 yards rushing on 15 attempts and finished the season with 579 total yards rushing and four touchdowns on 95 attempts.

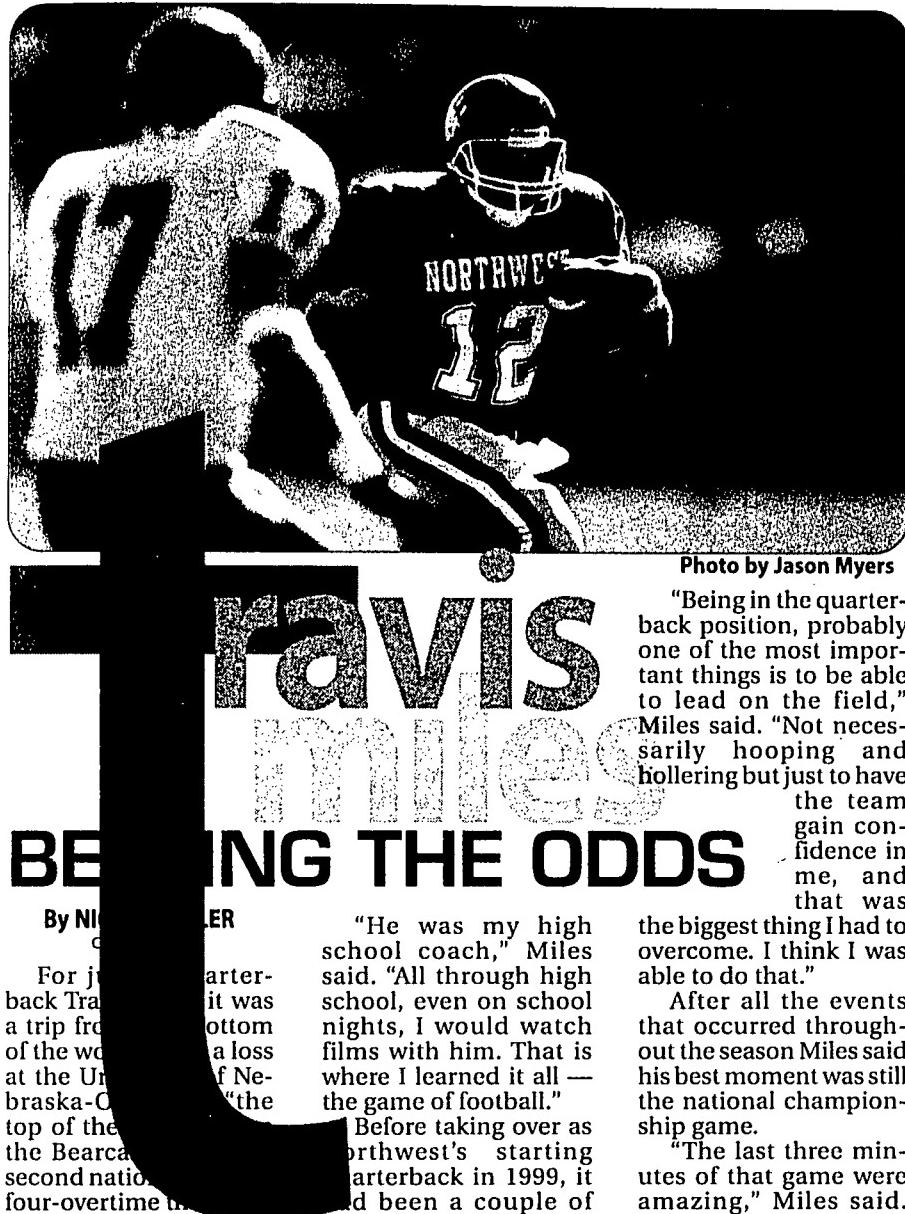


Photo by Jason Myers

TAVIS BEATING THE ODDS

By NICK WILDER

For junior quarterback Travis Miles, it was a trip from the bottom of the world to a loss at the University of Nebraska-Omaha. "The top of the world," he said, "is the Bearcat's second national title in four-overtime games."

"To be honest looking back, that loss really helped us," Miles said. "I think it really opened our eyes and realized we were not quite as good as we thought we were. We realized we were going to have to work hard each and every week to pull out a victory even against teams like Rolla and Baptist. You couldn't take anyone lightly."

Miles said the Nebraska-Omaha game really helped the 'Cats late in the season.

"Being the defending national champions, going into the season, everybody pretty much had us circled on their schedules," Miles said. "So I would say that going out each week and preparing just for that week and not looking ahead was probably our biggest challenge."

A native of Rolla, Miles inspiration to play football and compete came from his father.

"He was my high school coach," Miles said. "All through high school, even on school nights, I would watch films with him. That is where I learned it all — the game of football."

Before taking over as Northwest's starting quarterback in 1999, it had been a couple of years since Miles had actually gotten back on the field. Coming in and starting well was one of Miles' goals.

"I really don't set too many individual goals," Miles said. "Our team goal was just to get back to the national championship and win another. That was our main goal and basically my goal, and we were able to accomplish that."

Coming off of a national championship in '98 Miles had to overcome the shadow of former quarterback Chris Greisen.

"I heard it all pre-season and just tried to ignore it and go out and play my game," Miles said. "I am not Chris and that is what I told everybody. I am not going to do the things he does."

The biggest thing in the season was for Miles to step in and take control of the team and be a leader.

"Being in the quarterback position, probably one of the most important things is to be able to lead on the field," Miles said. "Not necessarily hooping and hollering but just to have the team gain confidence in me, and that was

the biggest thing I had to overcome. I think I was able to do that."

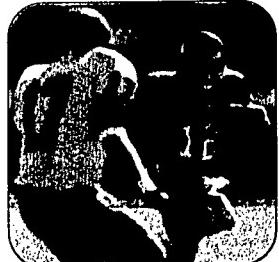
After all the events that occurred throughout the season Miles said his best moment was still the national championship game.

"The last three minutes of that game were amazing," Miles said. "From going to basically thinking the game was over and the guy runs out of bounds, giving us a second chance with 51 seconds to go and to go down in four plays and score was by far most exciting."

"But you can't explain the emotions that are going through your mind when you think the season is over and you just lost a national championship to just total elation and getting another shot in overtime."

Watching the film after the game, Miles said he was still amazed at the 'Cats resiliency.

"Our sitting there with three minutes to go and we were like third and ten, down by 15 and you are thinking there is no possible way," Miles said. "Even when watching the film I don't believe we won. But we were able to do it and it's all that matters."



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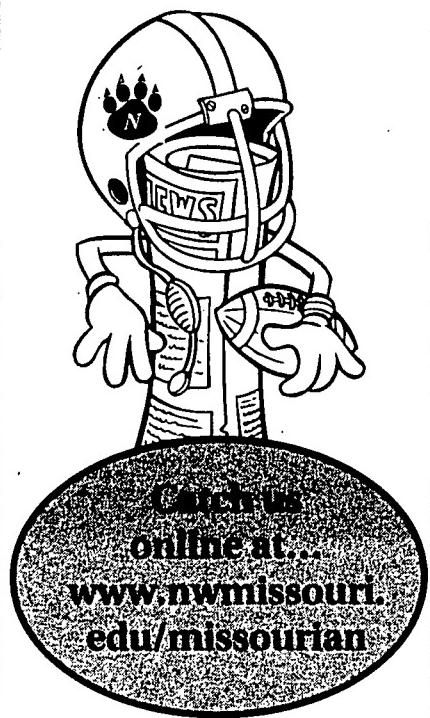
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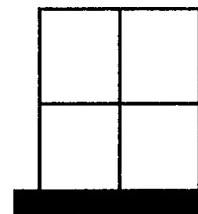
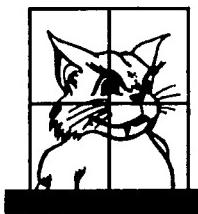
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QUEST OF THE 'CATS



Despite many obstacles, Bearcat defense managed to get its job done

PHOTO BY AMY ROH

Battling through an

UNFORGETTABLE season

By BLAKE DREHLE
SPORTS EDITOR

Coming into the season the Northwest defense had the upper hand on the offense. It had a multiple amount of experienced players returning and was considered to be the unit that would take the pressures off the offense.

However, in the game of football and life anything can happen, and it did for the 'Cats last spring when senior cornerback Greg Wayne was diagnosed with low-grade lymphoma cancer. Wayne returned to the team and played as a captain, but an incision from the surgery was slow in healing, he was forced to be sidelined.

Then during the second day of practice the 'Cats lost senior All-America defensive tackle Aaron Becker for the season, when he tore his anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee.

Even with the losses, 'Cat defenders came back week after week improving themselves to make adjustments and help the team win.

It was evident when Northwest had

to re-evaluate its defense after giving up 505 yards in a loss to the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

"On defense we weren't ready to play," senior cornerback Charlie Pugh said after the loss. "We missed a lot of tackles and we weren't there for every series of the game."

But just like the offense, the 'Cats defense put things together in the second half against Pittsburg State University and held the Gorilla's explosive running attack in check.

The Pitt State win had a major affect on what direction the defense was going, and the 'Cats got their first shutout since 1984 when they defeated Southwest Baptist University, 52-0.

Although the defense allowed 21.4 points per game in '99, compared with 17.5 in '98, the '99 defense allowed less yards in rushing, (131) passing, (112) and racked up more sacks (51).

"I was glad to be a part of a team that rose to the occasion each and every week," junior middle linebacker Brian Williams said. "It was difficult at times

to mentally get up for games but everybody tried to get better every week and that's what matters."

The Northwest defense was relentless when it stood strong and defeated Emporia State University on the road without starting senior pass rushers Alan Buckwalter and Matt Voge, and junior reserve linebacker Joe Quinlin.

"We just came out and played Northwest defense," senior defensive lineman Brandon Simpson, "We knew we had to come out and play without being intimidated with three players hurt."

The Northwest secondary made its impression by coming up with its own big plays at critical times. Sophomore cornerback Frank Taylor had a team high six interceptions while safeties Ryan Miller, redshirt freshman, and David Carlson, senior, finished third and fourth on the team in tackles.

During the playoffs, the defense was forced to come up with plays that would give the team momentum. It was something they were capable of and did, head coach Mel Tjeersdma said.

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Bearcats capture another win against Ichabods

The No. 5-ranked Bearcats took another step toward their fourth-consecutive MIAA title and a bid in the NCAA Division II Playoffs as they defeated the Washburn University Ichabods, 35-10, at Rickenbrode Stadium.

The 25-point beating of the Ichabods was a different outcome compared with the closer victory margins of previous games between the two teams.

"We really challenged our players and said, 'This is a thing you can really separate yourself from the last few years because even as good as we were the last two years, we weren't able to dominate them, and I think we did,'" head coach Mel Tjeerdsma said.

The 'Cats started the scoring on their second possession of the game. Junior running back Dave Jansen capped an 83-yard drive with an 18-yard touchdown run.

Then Washburn's junior kicker Chad

Todd booted a 32-yard field goal early in the second quarter to put the Ichabods on the board, 7-3.

However, that was as close as Washburn would get. Junior tight end Mark Maus and Jansen scored on runs of four yards and 26 yards respectively, and the 'Cats took a 21-3 lead into halftime.

Northwest added another score when junior quarterback Travis Miles completed an 11-yard pass to sophomore running back Ryan Hackett.

The Ichabods found the end zone in the final minute of the third quarter, when sophomore running back Brandon Rainer scored from three yards out to cap a 90-yard march, making the score 28-10.

But Northwest sealed the victory with another score early in the fourth when junior offensive tackle Andy Erpelding scored his third touchdown in two games. He was taking the place of in-



PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

Junior running back Dave Jansen eyes the open field to look for more yards during this run against the Washburn University Ichabods. The Bearcats won the contest 35-10 with Jansen gaining 112 yards rushing and two touchdowns on 17 carries.

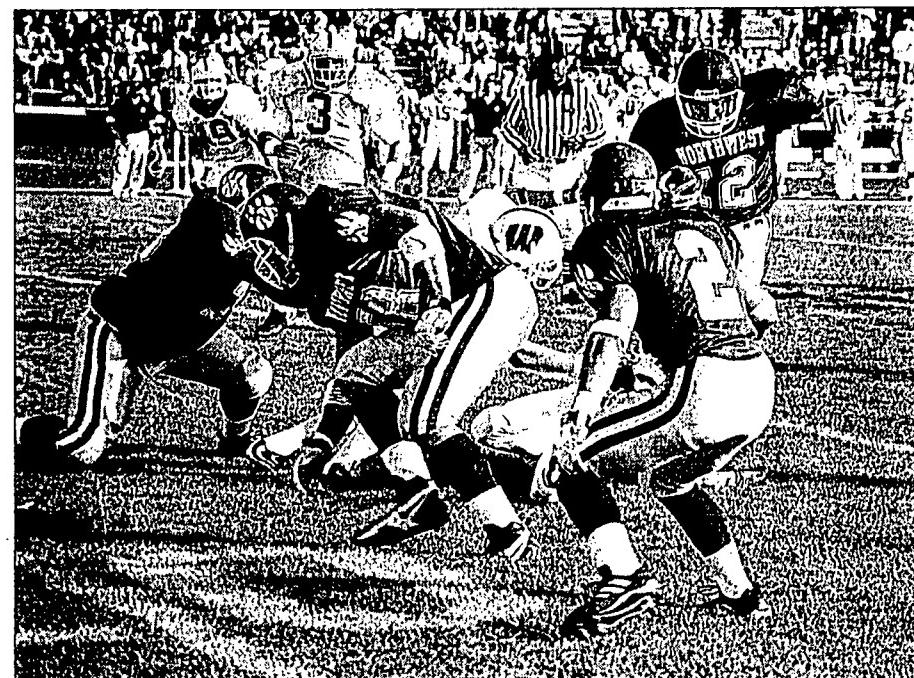


PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

Junior quarterback Travis Miles tries to elude a Washburn University defender while junior offensive lineman Andy Erpelding

jured running back Tucker Woolsey during short-yardage situations.

Jansen rushed for 108 yards on the day, recording his fifth-straight 100-yard game. Miles passed for 250 yards, completing 18-of-28 passes.

Defensively, junior linebacker Wes Simmons led the 'Cats, recording 14 tackles, including two for losses and one sack. Simmons' sack was one of seven Bearcat sacks on the day.

"We just wanted to turn it loose and get after (the quarterback)," senior defensive end Cole Sidwell said. "We didn't really change things up much. We

were just trying to put as much pressure on him as we could."

In addition, senior kicker Dave Purnell extended his MIAA record for consecutive extra points to 51. Purnell said he appreciated the help of his teammates.

"The way I looked at it was whatever happens during the season was something you reflect on after the season," he said. "I can't compare, but records are always nice. It tells you that you're being successful and it always makes you feel good and builds a lot of confidence for you."

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Carrying on the tradition of game against

For the fourth consecutive year, Northwest earned a share of the MIAA Championship as they topped the University of Missouri-Rolla Miners, 34-3, at Jackling Field.

Going into the game, the Bearcats were not ruling out the notion of an upset. The Miners had not won a game in two seasons, and they were on the heels of a 62-0 loss—the school's worst since 1964.

"We were at our peak," head coach Mel Tjeerdsma said. "You have to play how you practice and prepare for every game. If you don't you're going to be upset."

The No. 5-ranked Bearcats got the scoring started after taking just two minutes off the clock. Junior quarterback Travis Miles connected with junior wide receiver Tony Miles on a 47-yard pass play that capped a four-play, 70-yard drive.

Less than two minutes later, sophomore cornerback Frank Taylor caught his sixth interception of the season and returned it for a touchdown to put Northwest up 14-0 with 11:24 remaining in the first quarter. Senior kicker Dave Purnell added a field goal to make it 17-0 after one quarter.

Then on the first play of the second

quarter, Tony Miles took a reverse and pulled up to pass. He connected with junior wide receiver J.R. Hill for a 26-yard touchdown pass. Purnell tacked on another field goal on the last play of the first half to make the score 27-0.

In the third quarter, junior running back Dave Jansen scored from two yards out to cap the scoring for Northwest, 34-0. But the Miners added a field goal in the fourth quarter to avoid the shutout.

Purnell broke the MIAA career record for consecutive extra points on his first attempt of the day. By the game's end, he had recorded 55 straight point-after-attempts, dating back to the 1998 season.

Offensively, Jansen rushed for 98 yards, breaking his streak of five straight 100-yard games. However, he topped the 1,000-yard mark for the season and became the first Bearcat to rush for 1,000 yards since Jesse Haynes racked up 1,453 during the '96 season.

Defensively, Northwest held Missouri-Rolla to just 97 yards of total offense. Senior defensive tackle Matt Voge led the way for the Bearcat defense with seven tackles, including four for losses and three sacks.



University of Missouri-Rolla junior linebacker Kenan Morrison is brought down by senior safety Dave Carlson. Carlson had four unassisted tackles in the game and had a

PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC
total of 61 tackles throughout the season. The Miners had not won a game for the past two seasons when they took on the Bearcats, who were then ranked No. 5.

I used to think it was just a mascot, but it is more than that. At the championship game, parents were telling me 'good job.' When hearing that, it makes it all worthwhile.

BOBBY BEARCAT



PHOTO BY AMY ROH

The Bearcat cheerleaders try to pump up the crowd during a football game during the season. The cheerleaders were at every home game and also traveled to every away game as well. The squad consists of 10 men

and 14 women. They practiced three hours a day, five days a week and Wednesday nights the squad worked on new stunts. In the second trimester the team prepared for national competition.

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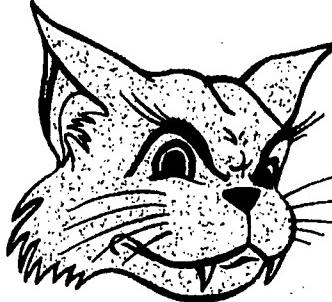
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QUEST OF THE 'CATS



Putting TOGETHER the pieces

Bearcat offense breaks through defensive lines and runs the ball in for the touchdown

By BLAKE DREHLE
SPORTS EDITOR

When describing the 1999 Northwest football team's offense, one needed to put it together like a puzzle. Every player played a vital piece in making everything fit.

Going into the season, there were many questions for the Bearcat team after winning its first national championship in '98. Some of those questions were: How would junior quarterback Travis Miles, who completed 234-425 pass attempts for 3,129 yards and 27 touchdowns, replace the graduated Chris Griesen? Would the offensive line be as strong as it was last year? Could junior running back Dave Jansen replace Derek Lane?

The questions were put to the test early and often, but through the hardships and pain came glory to every player on the team, especially the offensive unit.

Having to hear about replacing Griesen was something Miles had to endure before the season started, but he was determined it would not be something that would bring him down.

There were differences in the '99 team compared to the previous years' squad mainly in the statistics category. But as players got situated with their roles, positive things took place.

Even when things seemed hopeless,

for the offense after a loss to the University of Nebraska-Omaha, it did what true champions do — get back up and play harder in the next game.

"The key for us is to build on what we've done," head coach Mel Tjeerdsma said after the 'Cats 27-21 win at Pittsburg State University. "I said maybe the (UNO) game was good for us to experience that loss. I really believe that. I'm not sure if we beat UNO that we would've beat Pitt State."

In the game against Pitt State a leash was loosened and the running game became as effective as the passing.

The running attack expanded possibilities for the 'Cats because they were as deadly on the ground as in they were in the air.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln transfer running back Dan White impacted the rushing game during the first three games of the season and led all rushers with 222 yards on 35 attempts and four touchdowns. However, he suffered a foot injury against Pitt State, forcing him to miss the rest of the year.

This gave Jansen the opportunity to show how much fire-power he had as the lone starting tailback and the first Northwest running back to rush over 1,000 yards since Jesse Haynes did in '96.

Jansen, who finished the year with

1,672 yards and 20 touchdowns, did not take all the prestige for his success.

"David Jansen ran extremely well, but boy you better give a lot of credit to our offensive line," Tjeerdsma said. "Not only the running game, but they did a great job of protection Travis."

Replacing three starters on the offensive line from last year's team was no easy task, but the new starters showed they were up to the challenge of protecting Travis Miles and opening holes for the running backs.

"The more we ran the ball, the more confident Travis was going to be passing the ball," sophomore center Joe Glab said. "Teams wouldn't be able to focus on one thing. If you gave Travis that, he could pick them apart all day."

Once the 'Cats' ground game was established, the bread and butter of the offense came together — the passing game. Northwest receivers gained 3,292 yards this year, confusing defenders all season long.

Junior wide receiver Tony Miles was the leading receiver with 1,058 yards on 69 catches and eight touchdowns.

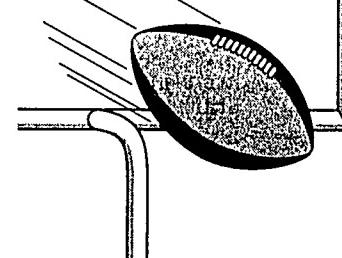
"Our offense was designed to get five different receivers receptions," Travis Miles said. "We alternated on things and it was good to see those guys come up big and help with things as much as they did."

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PHOTO BY JASON MYERS

Junior tight end Mark Maus escapes a Central Missouri State University Mule defender while gaining more yardage during the

Bearcats' 41-14 victory. Maus finished the season with 91 yards and one touchdown on 12 receptions.

Cats capture MIAA title after win against Mules

When Northwest took the field against Central Missouri State University for the final game of the regular season, some people were calling it the 'Cats' biggest game of the year. At stake was a MIAA Championship and a spot in the playoffs, but the Bearcats had little trouble, taking a 41-14 victory at Rickenbrode Stadium.

"A lot of people take it for granted, but winning just doesn't happen," junior running back Dave Jansen said. "We make it happen. A lot of work goes into it and preparation. So it's really big. Four conference championships in a row — that's an amazing feat for us to overcome."

Senior kicker Dave Purnell booted a 33-yard field goal to cap Northwest's first drive. Six minutes later, Jansen scored on a two-yard run to make it 10-0. Northwest ended the first quarter when junior quarterback Travis Miles

connected with senior wide receiver Seneca Holmes on a 18-yard scoring strike, and Northwest took a 17-0 lead.

In the second period, the Bearcat offense failed to produce points. Meanwhile the Mules finally got on the board, scoring on a safety and a 32-yard field goal by senior kicker Lee DuBois.

Northwest got back on track after the intermission and outscored the Mules 14-2, with the safety coming on a bad punt snap. Then in the fourth quarter, the Bearcats outscored the Mules again, 10-7, and cruised to the victory and the conference championship.

Purnell put his name into the national record book on his first extra point attempt of the day. The kick was his 52nd consecutive point-after-attempt of the season, breaking the NCAA Division II record. He shattered the record, ending the regular season with 56 straight extra points.



PHOTO BY HEATHER EPPERLY

Junior quarterback Travis Miles tries to break the hold of a Central Missouri State University defender. Travis finished the game with 176 yards passing and one touchdown.

Facing

After the 'Cats beat Central Missouri State University, they didn't celebrate their fourth-consecutive MIAA championship. Instead the team remembered the passing of a teammate.

Freshman defensive end Phil Voge died one day before the game from injuries suffered in a car accident six days earlier. Senior defensive tackle Matt Voge wore his brother's No. 57 for the remainder of the season to honor him. Meanwhile, the rest of the players strived to give all they could.

"What they did was each one of them gave their best effort, and that was their commitment to the Voge family," head coach Mel Tjeerdsma said.

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QUEST OF THE 'CATS

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PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

Junior wide receiver Ryan George embraces senior wide receiver Seneca Holmes after his 4-yard touchdown catch in the second quarter against Indiana University of Pennsylvania. George finished the game with one catch and one touchdown. ■ Senior cornerback Charlie Pugh jumps in front of a University of North Dakota wide receiver and makes an interception. The Bearcats went on to win 20-13.

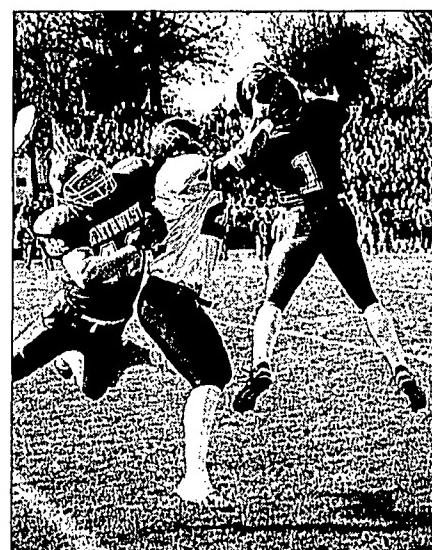


PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

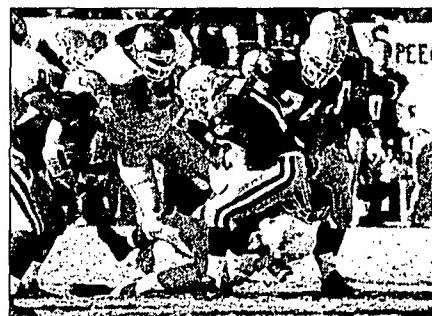


PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC
Senior linebacker Greg Bonnett sacks University of Northern Colorado senior quarterback Corte McGuffey.

As if the Northwest football team had not overcome enough obstacles during the regular season, the Bearcats found themselves coming from behind in each of the playoff games leading to the title game.

When the pairings were announced, the Bearcats were seeded No. 2 in the Midwest Region, which was arguably the nation's most competitive, but head coach Mel Tjeerdsma said he was excited as he had ever been.

"The last three years, we knew we were going to be in before the last week," Tjeerdsma said. "From that standpoint, it made the last week very exciting. The really great thing about the team was how it overcame so many things. We were playing at a really great level and if we could keep building on that, we had a chance of making a good run."

The road to Florence, Ala., began on a brisk after-

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PHOTO BY MIKE RANDELL

Allison Sears embraces fellow cheerleader Andee Cooper after the Bearcats put points up on the score board in overtime. Many fans endured the long bus or car rides in excess of 12 hours long and followed the 'Cats down to Florence, Ala. for the second straight year.

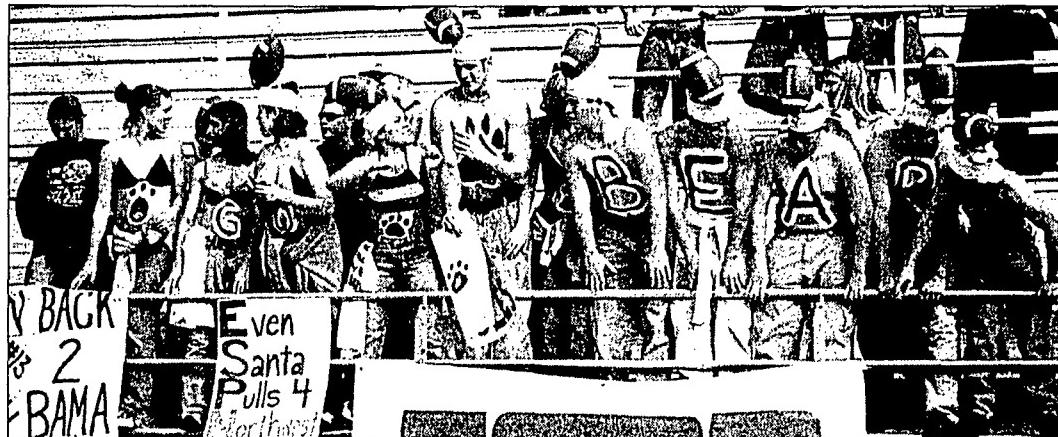


PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC



PHOTO BY MICHAELA KANGER

Northwest football fanatics show their support for the Bearcats in Florence, Ala., by writing on themselves in green and white paint. The game was broadcast on ESPN. Some members of the crowd made signs and wore inflatable football helmets in preparation for the game and in hopes of making it on TV. ■ Excited fans cheer on the Bearcats during overtime in Florence, Ala. After a disappointing first half and a slow third quarter, the 'Cats came from behind during the fourth quarter to tie the game with only a few seconds left on the clock, raising the crowd's energy and noise level.

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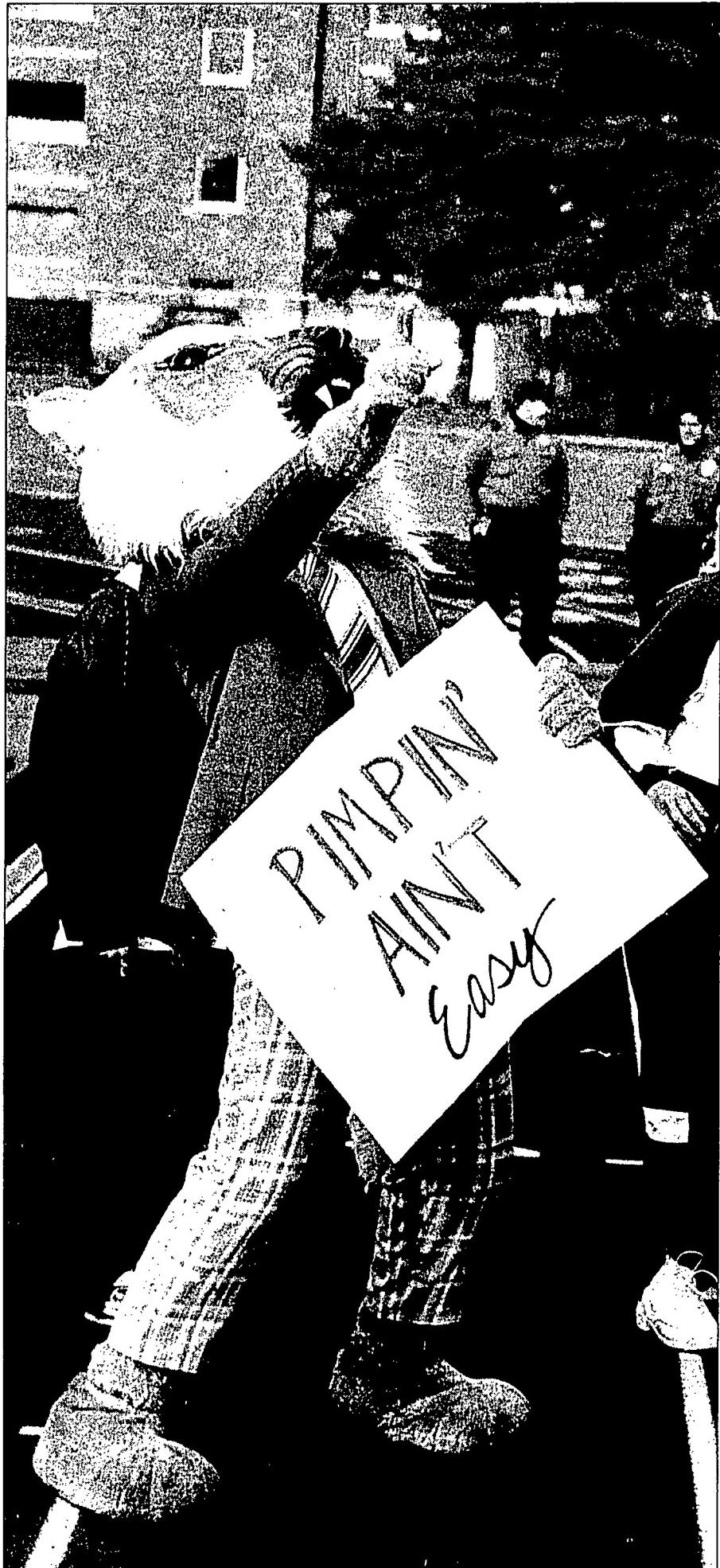
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Bobby Bearcat dresses for Halloween during the game against Washburn University. Bobby tried on several other costumes as well including a ghost, campus safety officer and a cowboy armed with water guns. Bobby visited every game with the Bearcat gridders

PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

to help keep the crowd peped up. One of Bobby's routines at every game was to do pushups every time the Bearcats' scored. Bobby also walked around the crowd to greet and play children. Because of Bobby's popularity, he even has his own fan club.



PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

The Bearcat Marching Band performs in the stands during the opening game of the 1999 season against the Arkansas Tech Wonder Boys. Sophomore Nick Vasquez is the drum major for the estimated 160 person marching band. The band performed before

every home game and also at halftime. They were the accompaniment for the Bearcat Feature Twirler Rachel Crawford and for the Bearcat Steppers. Last year the band performed at a high school competition in Clarinda.

By Valerie Mossman
MANAGING EDITOR

A championship Bearcat football team functions well with a secondary team comprised the band, cheerleaders, steppers and, of course, Bobby Bearcat.

Bobby was an important figure not only on the field and in the arena but also in the community.

"The community really seems to like Bobby," the Bearcat said. "I used to think it was just a mascot, but it is more than that."

"At the championship game, parents were telling me 'good job.' When hearing that, it makes it all worthwhile."

Throughout the season, Bobby celebrates every touchdown with push-ups. He does a pushup for each point the team scored. At the Emporia State University game, Bobby completed 360 push-ups by the end of the game.

The cheerleaders and steppers are also responsible for crowd motivation.

The cheerleading season begins two weeks before school starts and continues until the second week of April.

"I think we did an excellent job with the crowd (at the championship game)," said Chris Andrews, a Bearcat cheerleader. "They were ready for a good game. When we tried to get the crowd up, the crowd did well."

"It made me really proud to be a Bearcat," Andrews said. "They kept behind them and never gave up. They anticipated and believed we would come back. We were excited to see them pull it off. And they stayed to see them pull it off."

Another group responsible for crowd morale boosting was the Bearcat Marching Band. They begin practice at the start of the football season. They had practices from 4:05 to 5:10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and on Fridays if there was a home game on Saturday.

The band also traveled to the championship game.

The athletic department paid for those who went to Alabama, if they performed at one of the playoff games.

"The game was very tense," said Bearcat drum major Nick Vasquez. "We played for so long that by the end we just stopped and watched in disbelief."

PLAYOFFS

noon at Rickenbrode Stadium as the 'Cats battled the University of North Dakota. The Fighting Sioux, who finished with a 9-1 record, suffered their only loss at the University of South Dakota State, 21-7.

North Dakota took a 7-0 lead late in the first quarter when senior cornerback Brant Grimes returned a blocked field-goal attempt 66 yards for a touchdown. Then the Sioux added a pair of field goals in the second period to take a 13-0 lead at halftime.

The Northwest defense opened the second half by forcing the Sioux to punt from deep in their own territory. Moments later, junior wide receiver Tony Miles took the punt 64 yards for a touchdown, and the 'Cats were suddenly back in the game, 13-7.

"I knew we needed to get out and set the tone (in the second half)," junior defensive linebacker Brian Williams said. "It was time to bring a spark to our offense and bring everyone into the game. It picked me up after getting beat up in the first half. We went out and tightened things up."

Eventually senior kicker David Purnell hit a couple of field goals in the third and fourth quarters to tie the game, but neither team managed to score through the rest of regulation.

So for the first time in Northwest football history, the 'Cats were forced into overtime. In the NCAA, an extra period consisted of two series for each team, beginning at the 25-yard line.

The Bearcats lost the toss in overtime and took the ball first. They drove to the North Dakota 1-yard line, and then on third-and-goal, junior running back Dave Jansen scored the only touchdown of the game to put Northwest on top, 20-13.



PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

Senior kicker Dave Purnell is overjoyed after the Bearcats amazing 20-13 win in overtime against the University of North Dakota Fighting Sioux. Purnell made field goals of 46 and 36 yards which tied the game at 13-13 with 10:19 left in the game.

After an incomplete pass, Sioux senior quarterback Tony Stein fumbled the ball, but North Dakota recovered it, setting up third-and-18 from the Northwest 33-yard line. Stein found sophomore wide receiver Luke Schleusner at the Northwest 23, bringing up a fourth-and-eight. But Stein's pass was batted down by senior safety David Carlson giving the 'Cats the win.

Jansen, who rushed for 115 yards in the game, said his winning score was his shot at redemption.

"I dropped a big screen and fumbled once," he said. "But our defense played great. They really saved our offense. It was a great feeling to score the winning

touchdown. I had a lot of fun. It was exciting when every play counted. It was obviously emotional, but we handled it well and came out with the win."

One week later, the 'Cats traveled to the University of Northern Colorado's Nottingham Field for the quarterfinal round. The matchup marked the fourth-straight year that the two teams faced each other, with the winner eventually taking the national championship.

Going into the game, the Bears owned a 30-1 record at Nottingham Field since it was built in 1995. As the fourth quarter began, leading 28-17, it

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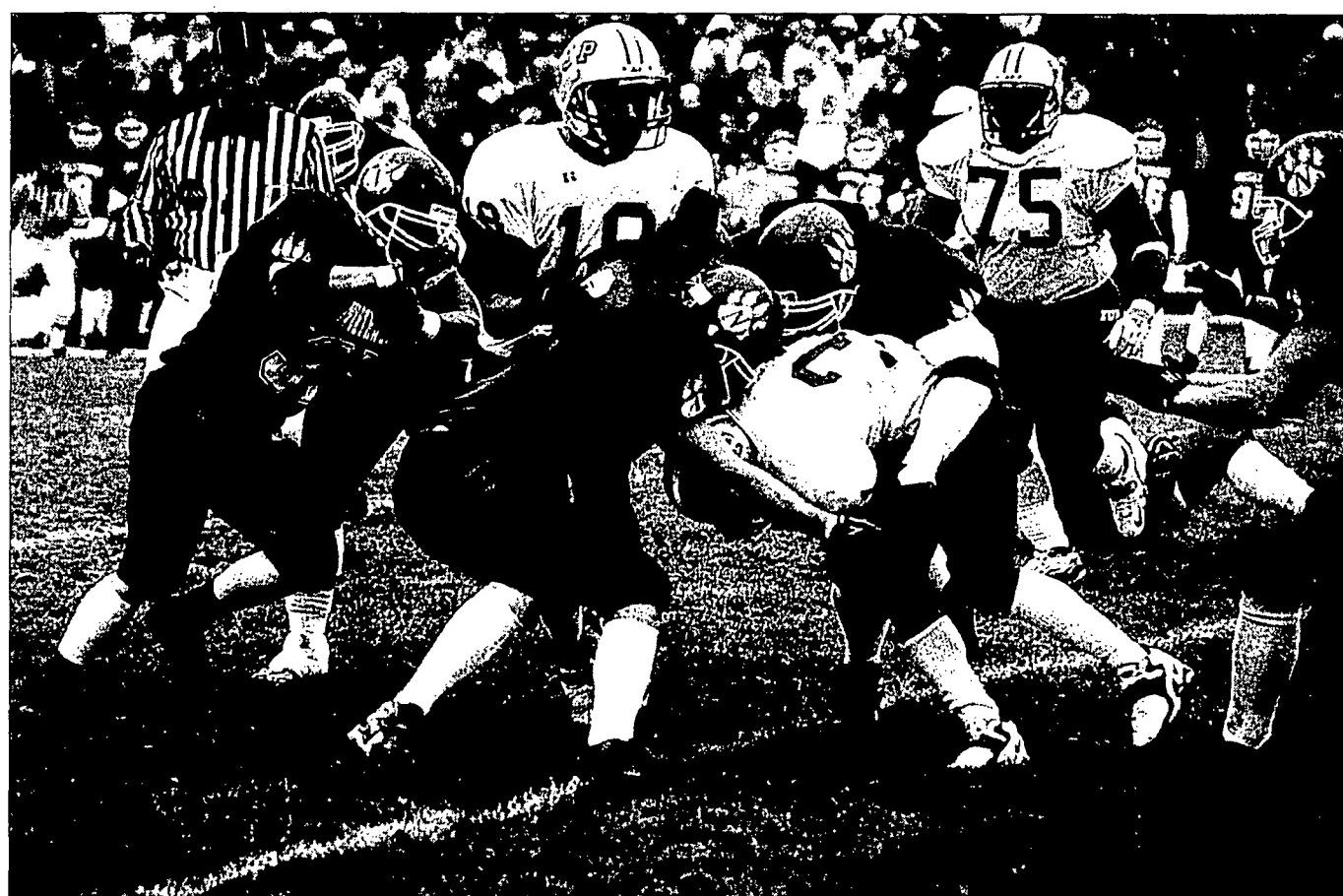


PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

Senior linebacker Greg Bonnett takes down University of Northern Colorado senior quarterback Corte McGuffey for a sack helping the Bearcats to a 41-35 win over the Bears in front of an announced at-

tendance of 6,124 at Nottingham Field in Greeley, Colo. Bonnett finished the game with a total of 10 tackles. The 'Cats had a total of four sacks on the day resulting in 12 lost yards for the Bears.

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QUEST OF THE 'CATS

continued from previous page

looked as though the Bears would improve their record.

But Northwest took just less than two minutes off the clock and pulled to within four points, 28-24. Then junior quarterback Travis Miles scrambled and found senior wide receiver Seneca Holmes for a touchdown. The 38-yard pass play gave the 'Cats a 31-28 lead with 9:59 left to play.

Yet the Bears answered when senior quarterback Corte McGuffey found senior wide receiver Keith Grable down the sideline for a 47-yard bomb and a touchdown to put Northern Colorado back on top with 7:55 to play.

Again, Northwest refused to quit. The Bearcats drove 76 yards in 11 plays. The 'Cats capped the drive at the 5-yard line when Jansen took the ball and tossed it to Travis Miles. The quarterback juggled the ball for a moment before taking it in for what proved to be the winning touchdown.

Northern Colorado took over at the 4-minute mark and drove to the Bearcats' 29-yard line. However the drive stalled and the Bears were forced to try a field goal for the tie. But sophomore defensive tackle Brian Schertz blocked the 46-yard attempt and redshirt freshman Ryan Miller returned it deep into Northern Colorado territory.

After a first down forced the Bears to waste their timeouts, Purnell lined up and nailed a 47-yard field goal with 51 seconds left to give the 'Cats a 41-35 lead.

Northern Colorado had one last chance, but it ended with a bad snap, which McGuffey fell on as time expired, allowing Northwest to take the upset.

With the top-seeded Bears out of the

playoff picture, and Indiana University of Pennsylvania facing Northwest in the semifinal game, the community seemed to take for granted that the 'Cats would be returning to Florence. However, Tjeerdsma tried to keep things in perspective.

"I was a little concerned about the people in the community," he said. "Everybody seemed to think that because we won in Northern Colorado that it automatically stamped a ticket to Alabama. I thought our players understood better than that and knew better than that. All you had to do was look at the film on Indiana. They were a very good football team."

Once again, the defending national champion Bearcats overcame a fourth-quarter deficit and beat the Indians, 20-12, at Rickenbrode Stadium.

After a scoreless first quarter and two missed field goals, junior quarterback Travis Miles finally put the 'Cats on the board with a 4-yard touchdown pass to junior wide receiver Ryan George.

The 'Cats lead stood through half-time, but the Indians took advantage of Northwest miscues. In the third quarter, Indiana used a time-consuming 14-play, 76-yard drive, and senior tailback Terrance Wilson scored the Indians' first touchdown. However a missed point after attempt kept the 'Cats in the lead, 7-6.

Indiana took its first lead early in the fourth quarter when freshman quarterback Brian Eyerman connected with senior wide receiver Greg Dorsey for a 48-yard touchdown pass. Despite a failed two-point conversion, the Indians led 12-7.

After a field goal by Purnell brought Northwest to within two points of the lead, the 'Cats kicked off to Indiana, and it might have been the most critical play

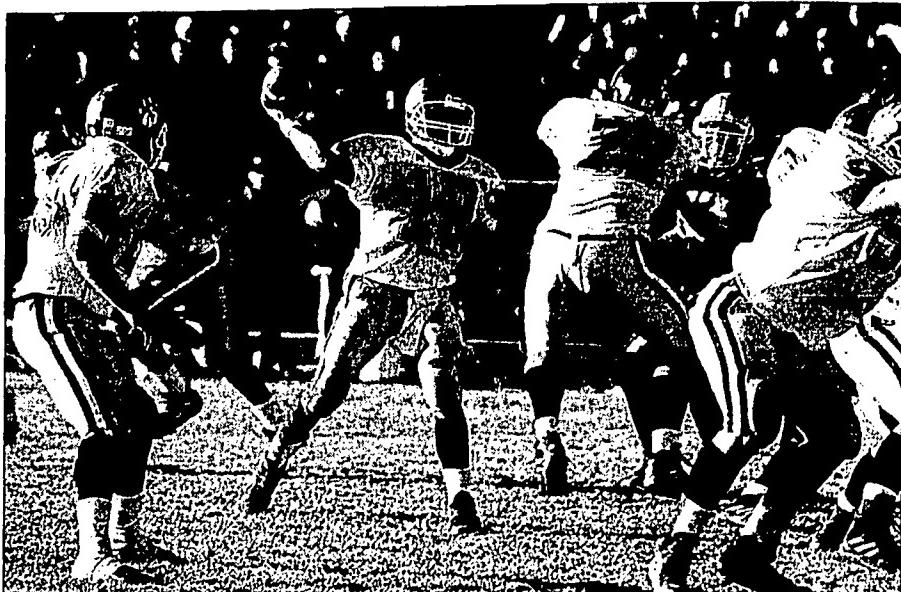


PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

Junior quarterback Travis Miles throws a pass in hopes of making a reception during the second round of the playoffs against the University of Northern Colorado. The 'Cats won 41-35.

of the game.

Purnell's kick was dropped by sophomore Aarmir Dew, the nation's 15th-ranked returner, and Northwest sophomore special teams player Tony Sly fell on the ball at the Indians' 19-yard line.

The 'Cats were unable to move the ball, but Purnell hit a 35-yard field goal to give Northwest a 13-12 lead with 4:21 remaining in the game.

"I think what almost lost the game for us is what ended up winning it for us — special teams," Tjeerdsma said. "Our defense played extremely well all day. They gave up some yards, but they were able to keep them out of the end zone."

Northwest sealed the victory on its next possession. With 1:09 left to play, starting at Indiana's 31-yard line, Jansen busted through a hole and looked to score.

But the ball popped free at the 8-yard line and rolled into the end zone. Luckily for Northwest, senior receiver Scott Courter was a few steps behind. He fell on the ball for the touchdown.

"I'd love to say it was a play that we've been working on in practice," Courter said. "I was just in the right place at the right time. I was blocking the safety, and I suddenly saw his eyes get real big and I looked and saw the ball free in the end zone and knew I had to get to it somehow, some way."

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kickoff for 81 yards and a touchdown, narrowing the margin, 37-29, with 7:25 remaining.

The Eagles, however, weren't giving in either. Carson-Newman put together an eight-play 76-yard drive that culminated with a 12-yard run by sophomore running back Antwon Oliver. It put the Eagles ahead 44-29 with 3:34 left in regulation.

On their next possession, the 'Cats got a break when the Eagles drew a fair-catch interference. Northwest proceeded to begin on its own 41-yard line. The 'Cats broke into Eagle territory on the next play, but a pair of incomplete passes by Travis Miles forced a third-and-10 situation. Still, Travis Miles came through, connecting with junior wide receiver J.R. Hill and setting up a first-and-goal. The pair hooked up again on the next play, pulling the score to 44-36 with 2:41 left.

The Eagles took over and it looked as though they would run the clock down. But, on what was arguably the most pivotal play of the game, senior running back Melvin Oates ran the ball out of bounds on fourth-and-7. The mishap gave possession back to the Bearcats on their own 26-yard line with 51 seconds left on the clock and no timeouts.

A bit of fear traveled through Northwest fans at the start of the drive when Travis Miles got the wind knocked out of him and had to leave the game. Freshman quarterback John McMenamin, who had thrown just 17 passes in eight games for the Bearcats, entered the game and Northwest was socked with a delay of game penalty.

Luckily for Northwest, Travis Miles came back into the game on the next play and completed passes of 18, 12 and 15 yards. Then on first-and-10 at the Eagles 34, he spiked the ball to stop the clock.



PHOTO BY MIKE RANSDELL

Junior quarterback Travis Miles takes time on the sideline to reflect on his play. In the fourth overtime, Miles threw a crucial game-winning 13-yard touchdown pass to junior wide receiver J.R. Hill that won the game for the Bearcats, 58-52. Miles finished the game with 298 yards passing. He also notched NCAA Division II Championship game records with five passing touchdowns and 24 completions.

"They were playing off, so we knew we could maybe get some stuff on the sidelines and just try and move it down a little bit, even some stuff up the middle because the clock stops on first down," Travis Miles said. "So we knew we could get up and spike, which we did a couple times."

The following play might be one Bearcats players and coaches will be talking about for a long time. With just 10 seconds left and the Bearcats needing a touchdown, Travis Miles found Hill on the sideline for a score.

It was a play that Svoboda drew up on the spot.

"He's a genius," Hill said. "The last touchdown was just like, 'Run this.' It wasn't a play we had ever practiced before — ever."

Then Travis Miles hit sophomore wide receiver Ryan George, who was dragging his feet to stay inbounds, in the back of the end zone for the two-point conversion and the tying points.

The Northwest fans erupted as the Bearcats' 30 fourth-quarter points tied a championship game record. But an amazing set of four overtimes had yet to come.

BATTLE CONTINUES IN OVERTIME

After Northwest recovered a Carson-Newman fumble in the first overtime, senior kicker Dave Purnell came on to kick a 36-yard field goal, but his attempt sailed to the left.

"That's just part of the game," Tjeerdsma said. "He didn't miss by much. It just wasn't a clean kick. I don't know what happened. For some reason, before he kicked it, I didn't feel real comfortable. I didn't feel like, 'Hey, we've got this game won.'"

In the second overtime, Purnell came on again to try a 45-yard kick, but his attempt was blocked. Then, Fleming attempted a 33-yard kick to put the game away for the Eagles, but his attempt sailed left.

The Eagles finally scored in the third overtime when Rumph caught a 13-yard touchdown pass and sophomore quarterback Leonard Guyton scored the two-point conversion, giving the Eagles a 52-44 lead.

Northwest responded with a touchdown when Tony Miles took a reverse and ran 15 yards into the end zone untouched. Then the 'Cats tied the score when Travis Miles completed a pass to Comer for the two-point conversion, forcing the game into a fourth and final overtime.

The Bearcats began with runs by Jansen and then Travis Miles connected with Hill for a touchdown. However, the Eagles got to Travis Miles on the conversion attempt and sacked him, giving Carson-Newman a chance to take the title.

The Eagles moved the ball to the 12-yard line, but on first down, Oliver coughed the ball up and Miller fell on it for the Bearcats to earn the title.

"Me and somebody else were fighting for it, and Carson Newman's running back was fighting for it too," Miller said. "It ended up being mine and my other

teammate. I wasn't sure who it was, but I heard the ref come in there and say, 'It's dead, it's over.' I just took off running."

Immediately after the referees signal, Northwest fans flooded the field in celebration. Deafening cheers sounded, while the 'Cats could barely comprehend what had happened.

"It was just unreal," Travis Miles said. "This team was amazing all year long on both sides of the ball. Our seniors were great leaders. I'm just glad we got the seniors out on a winning note and in a game like this. It's one we'll never forget."

The warm, afternoon sun had set quietly, giving way to the cool, night air, and the image of Tjeerdsma and senior offensive guard Chad Thompson on top of a podium, lifting the national championship trophy was instilled in everyone's memories.

The 8,451 fans that packed the stadium left slowly that night, and few questioned that it truly was the greatest game ever.

SHATTERED RECORDS

Several records were broken in the Bearcats' thrilling 58-52 victory in the national championship game.

- The two teams combined for the most points (110) in championship game history, any classification.

- Northwest scored the most points, 58, by one team in Division II.

- Carson-Newman scored the most points, 52, by a losing team.

- Northwest's 30 fourth-quarter points tied a championship game record. North Dakota also scored 30 points in the third quarter against Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1990.

- With four times, it was the longest game in NCAA championship history. No game had ever gone past one overtime.

- Northwest junior quarterback Travis Miles attempted 45 passes, completed 24 and threw five touchdown passes — all Division II championship records.

- Northwest junior wide receiver J.R. Hill caught three touchdown passes, tying the Division II championship record.

- Northwest's Tony Miles became just the second player to return a kickoff for a touchdown with his 81-yard return in the fourth quarter.

- Northwest became the fifth school to win back-to-back Division II national titles, joining Southwest Texas State (1981-1982), North Dakota State (1985-86), North Alabama (1993-94-95) and Northern Colorado (1996-97).

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1st OT

Leonard Guyton fumbles.
Frank Taylor recovers the ball
for Northwest. Dave Purnell's
36-yard field goal attempt is
no good.

2nd OT

Dave Purnell's 45-yard
field goal attempt is
blocked by Carson
Newman. Ryan Flemings'
35-yard field goal
attempt is no good.

3rd OT

Antwon Oliver scores on
1-yard run. Leonard Guyton scores
two-point conversion. Eagles lead
44-52. Tony Miles scores on
15-yard run. Steve Comer catches
pass for two-point conversion.
Northwest ties it up 52-52.

4th OT

J.R. Hill catches 13-yard
pass. Two-point conver-
sion fails. Bearcats lead
58-52. Antwon Oliver
fumbles. Ryan Miller
recovers.

FOOTBALL FOLLOWERS GO THE DISTANCE TO CHEER ON THE TEAM BEARCAT FANS

By VALERIE MOSSMAN
MANAGING EDITOR

At every game they could be seen giving their all to cheer on the Bearcats.

They ranged in age, size and sex. However, their motivation was the same — to insure national champion status once again.

On weekdays, the football fans were average students, teachers, residents or merchants. However, on weekends, when they put on their green attire, their attitude changed.

Perhaps the most recognizable fans each week were the Rickenbrode Rowdies.

The student organization included Greg Hutchison, Justin Legate and Matt Montgomery among many others.

They attended every game and even rented a limousine for the game between Northwest and Missouri Western State College.

"A friend said he could do this for us," Hutchison said. "We drove around the stadium a couple of times. And we were just rowdy. At the end of the game, five of us ran on the field and stomped on the Griffon."

The Rowdies also produced T-shirts for the group. Hutchison said there were originally just 20 shirts made, but more and more people liked the shirts and about 300-500 shirts were eventually sold.

"We were all supporting one cause,"

Hutchison said. "So we made some unique shirts."

However, they also had their obstacles to overcome.

"Security guards were always telling us to sit down," Hutchison said.

"It is almost like we're in church," Legate said.

"The players said that Mo West was one of the loudest crowds because we were able to yell and weren't policed," Montgomery said. "I understand we couldn't be vulgar. But I felt limited on what we could do."

Some fans went to extremes in paint and clothing to pump up the crowd.

Jacob Reeser was seen in the stands with his face painted as a football, Bearcat paw, football field and Bobby the Bearcat among other things.

"I just went out there to cheer the team on and show a little spirit," Reeser said.

Reeser traveled to almost every game and even became part of a snapshot.

"(Against Indiana University of Pennsylvania), fans asked me to come down so they could get a picture of it," Reeser said.

Another group that lent their support for the team was the Bearcat Sweethearts. However, their support was both on and off the field.

"We were there supporting the guys during the ups and downs, not giving up on them even if it was off the field," Bearcat Sweetheart president Amy Rodgers said. "We had had a lot of trag-



PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

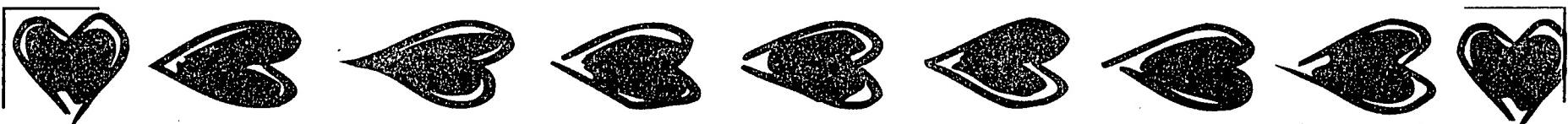
Three young fans pray for divine intervention during the championship game. The 'Cats trailed Carson-Newman College, 30-14, at the start of the fourth quarter. Northwest went on to score 30 points, tying the record for most points scored in a single quarter of a championship game. The 'Cats tied the score with 10 seconds remaining, sending the game into overtime.

edies (in 1999). So we kept the family informed on what was going on."

The Sweethearts arrived at every noon game at 8 a.m. to set up for the tailgate parties. The group also continued supporting the team after the season concluded by giving tours for new recruits and their families.

Bearcat fans poured into Rickenbrode Stadium for the team's eight home games in '99, and even more dedicated followers traveled hours to road games.

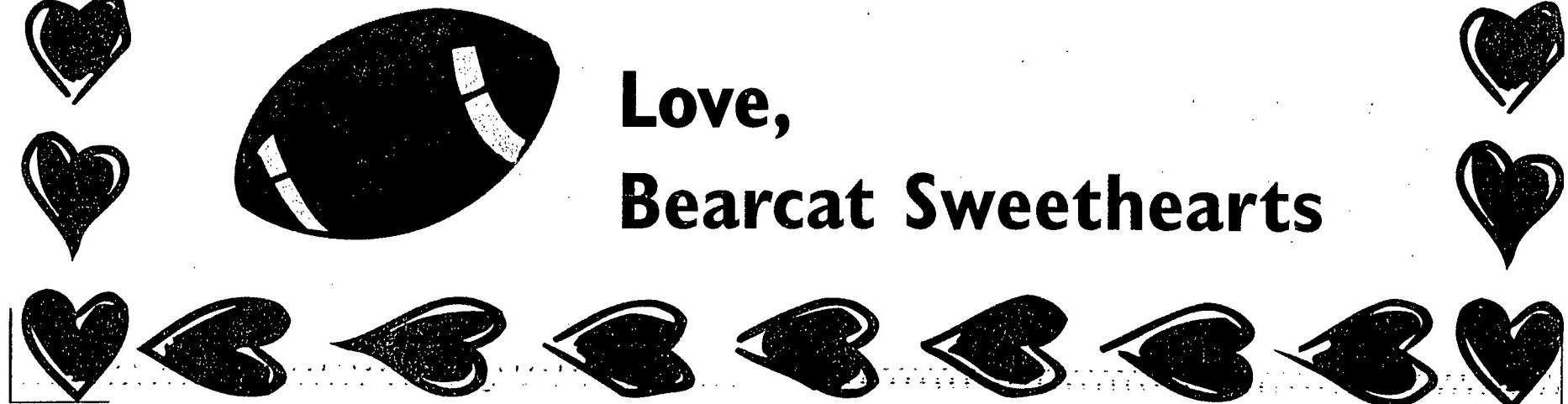
Through it all, Northwest fans played a vital role in supporting the team to reach championship status.



**The Carson-Newman Eagles have
broken hearts because Northwest
has the Bearcat Sweethearts.**

Thanks for such a great season guys!

**Love,
Bearcat Sweethearts**



EAGLES HAUNTED AGAIN

Losses to eventual national champions continue, despite top ranking, perfect record, balanced team

By MARK HORKNICKEL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

With most of the players back from its 1998 team, Carson-Newman College returned to the national championship game for a rematch with the Bearcats.

Not only was the revenge factor hanging over the Eagles' heads, so was another haunting statistic: Carson-Newman's season came to a halt at the expense of the eventual national champion during each of the previous six years.

"I would think there would be tremendous motivation for Carson-Newman," Northwest head coach Mel Tjeerdsma said. "I'm sure they felt like they were going to win (in '98). I think they felt they should have been the favorite in that game."

In '99, Carson-Newman was the favorite. The Eagles were ranked No. 1 through most of the season and sported a perfect 13-0 record.

While the Bearcats fought elimination throughout the playoffs, the Eagles' playoff run was much more convincing. They began by edging out Arkansas Tech University in the first round, 40-28. Then the Eagles beat Catawba, 28-25, in the quarterfinal round and Northeastern State University in the semifinals, 42-7.

Offensively, the Eagles were strong

on all aspects. The team compiled a school record 435 total points during the regular season. In postseason play, the Eagles scored 545 points, breaking the previous school record of 499 set the year before.

Sophomore quarterback Leonard Guyton returned after seeing action against the 'Cats in the '98 title game.

Also back were senior Melvin Oates and sophomore Antwon Oliver, who led a powerful running attack. In Carson-Newman's quarterfinal game against Catawba, Oates answered the call by rushing for 206 yards and one score on 26 carries. Oliver had 69 yards and three touchdowns in the semifinal versus Northeastern State. The Eagles racked up 4,406 rushing yards during the season and averaged 338.9 yards per game.

On the receiving end, senior Ques Rumph was the Eagles' main threat. Rumph set a school record for kick-off return yardage, and amassed a school record 1,440 yards on kick-off returns.

"He is their Tony Miles," Tjeerdsma said. "They are just very solid."

On the other side of the ball, the Eagle defense allowed just 1,157 rushing yards, an average of 89.8 yards per game and 2.8 yards per carry.

In the quarterfinal round, the Eagles' defense held Catawba to just 52 rushing yards and sacked the Indians' quarterback seven times.

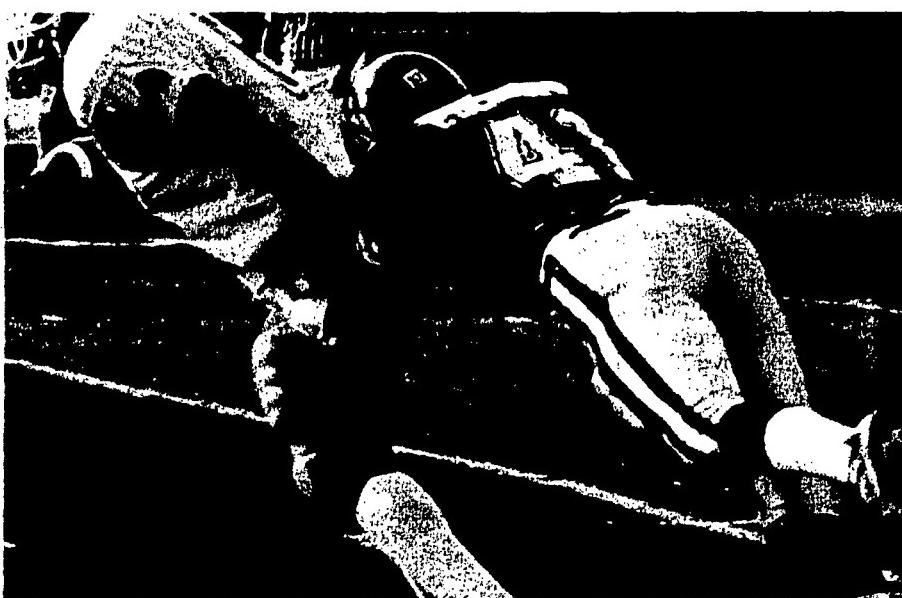


PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

Sophomore strong safety Philip Seemann attempts to tackle wide receiver Jarvonni Jackson of the Carson-Newman College Eagles in the national championship game

in Florence, Ala. Seeman recorded three tackles in the record breaking game and for the regular season he recorded 13 tackles, with nine being unassisted and four assisted.

As they flew into the national championship game, the Eagles were coming off their fifth perfect regular season and owned a rich history.

In postseason play, the Eagles were 33-12-1. Carson-Newman also had the longest playoff streak in NCAA Division II, earning 14-straight playoff appearances and a spot in 17 of the previous 18 seasons.

A victory against Northwest would give Carson-Newman its sixth national championship in football. Before becoming an NCAA Division II institution in '93, the Eagles won five national titles at the level.

However, the Eagles' streak of futility continued as they lost to the eventual national champion for the seventh consecutive year.

The women of PHI MU
would like to
congratulate the
1999 National Champion
Bearcats on an exciting
and unforgettable season!



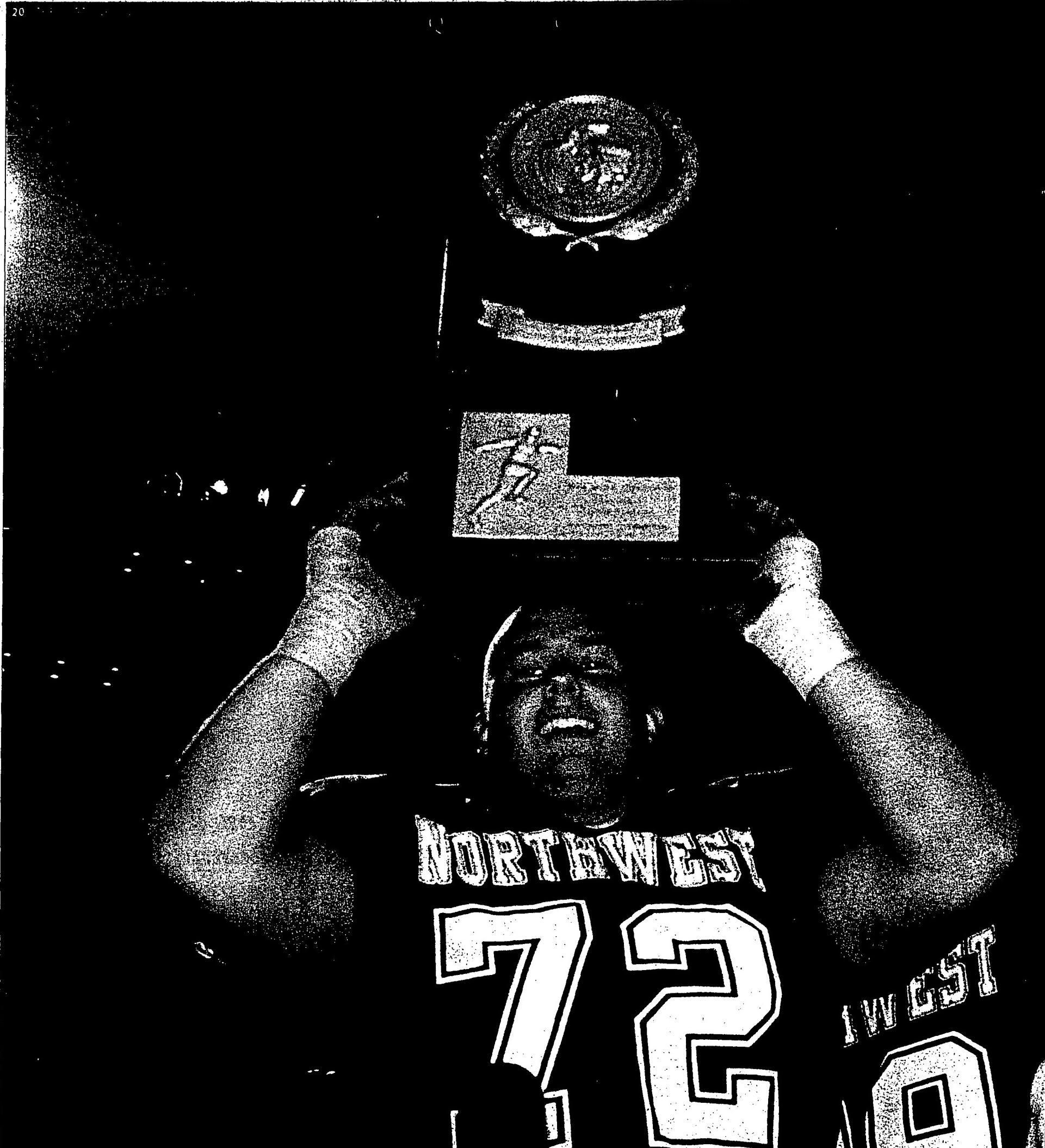
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Senior offensive lineman Chad Thompson raises the NCAA Division II national championship trophy in celebration of the Bearcat's amazing 58-52 win over Carson-Newman College. Thompson was a very important part of the Bearcats success with his exceptional run and pass blocking skills. Thompson was named to the second-team AP Little All-America list and to the Daktronics All-America team, which is voted on by the College Sports Information Directors of America.

PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

FIRST QUARTER

9:21
Dave Jansen puts
Northwest on the board
with 18 yard touchdown
run, 7-0.

5:28
38 yard field goal by
Carson Newman's
Ryan Fleming cuts
Northwest's lead to 7-3.

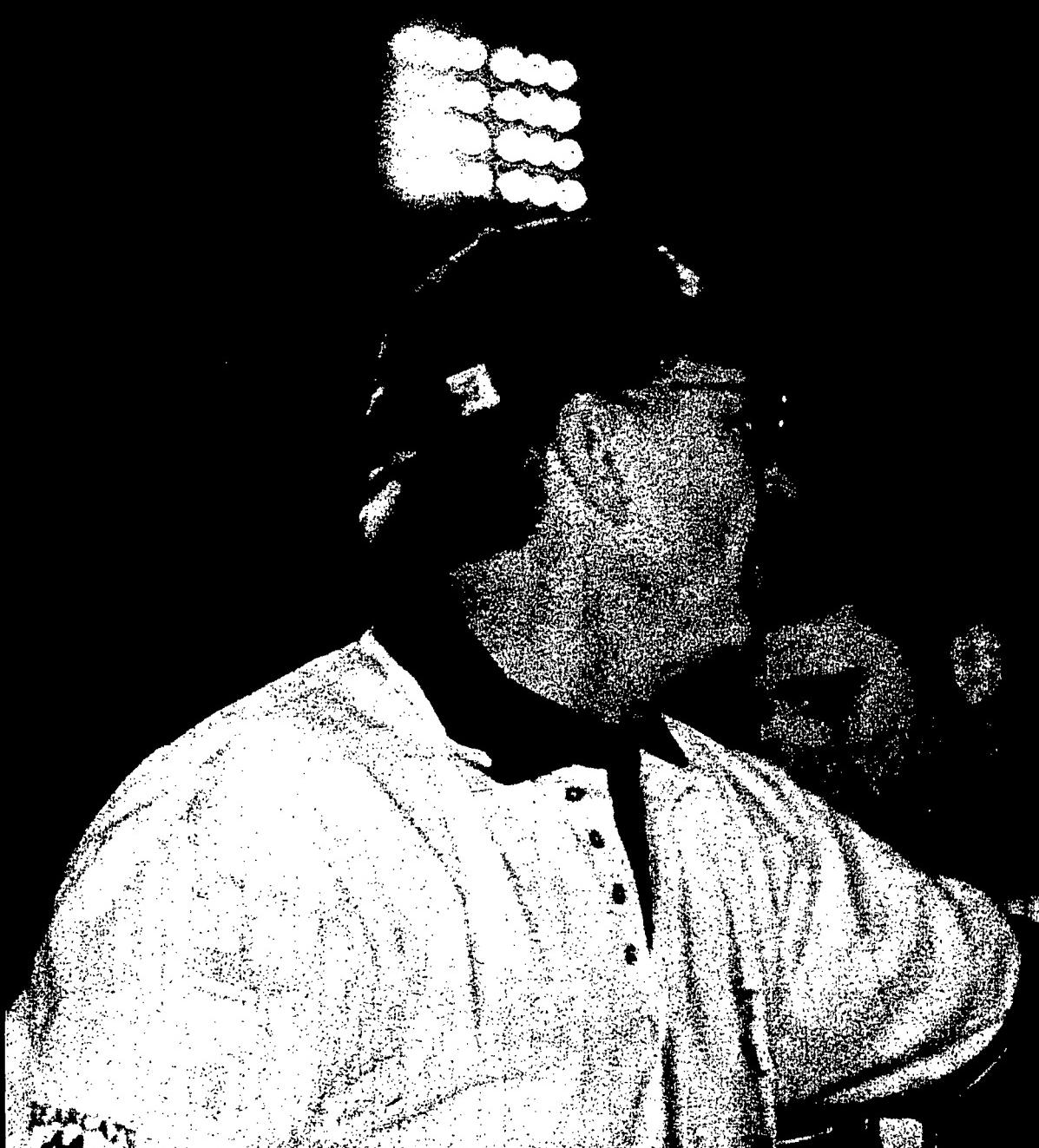
3:39
Ques Rumph returns a
punt 86 yards for a
touchdown. Eagles take a
10-7 lead.

SECOND QUARTER

8:27
Melvin Oates increases
Carson Newman's lead
with a 1 yard touchdown
run, 17-7.

THE BEARCATS

AE



5:54

Travis Miles throws interception, Carson Newman takes possession.

3:32

Myron Refoure takes a 20 yard touchdown run, Carson Newman leads 24-7

THIRD QUARTER

11:54

Seneca Holmes catches a 20 yard touchdown pass, Bearcats close gap 24-14

7:48

Travis Miles' pass is intercepted, Carson Newman takes possession.

4:54

Melvin Oates scores 1 yard touchdown run, but the extra point attempt fails, Eagles go up 30-14.

3:07

Travis Miles' pass is intercepted, Carson Newman takes possession.

1:36

Ryan Miller intercepts pass, Bearcats take possession

Unbelievable? Yes.

Improbable? Sure.

Miraculous? Definitely.

How about the greatest game ever?

For the Northwest football team and its fans, Dec. 11, 1999, was a day that will live in infamy. After pulling off fourth-quarter comebacks in each of their playoff games leading to the title game, the Bearcats gave a national television audience a sample of the adversity they had to overcome during a season loaded with ups and downs.

"As I told our players in the locker room, we've been doing this all three playoff games," head coach Mel Tjeerdsma said. "We've been behind in the fourth quarter. We've never really got so far behind with such short amount of time left, but it's just really a credit to them and to the fact that they never gave up. They never doubted. They believed the whole time, and like I told them, probably the best thing was they got to show the whole country just what that really was and what character and commitment those guys had."

The Bearcats booked their return trip to the national title game in Florence, Ala., with a 20-12 win over Indiana University of Pennsylvania one week earlier. The championship game would be a rematch of the 1998 title game between Northwest and the Carson-Newman College Eagles. Northwest had earned a 13-1 record, while the Eagles stood at 13-0 and had been ranked No. 1 almost the entire season. Little did the Bearcats know what was about to unravel when they took the field at Braly Municipal Stadium to try and win their second-straight national title.

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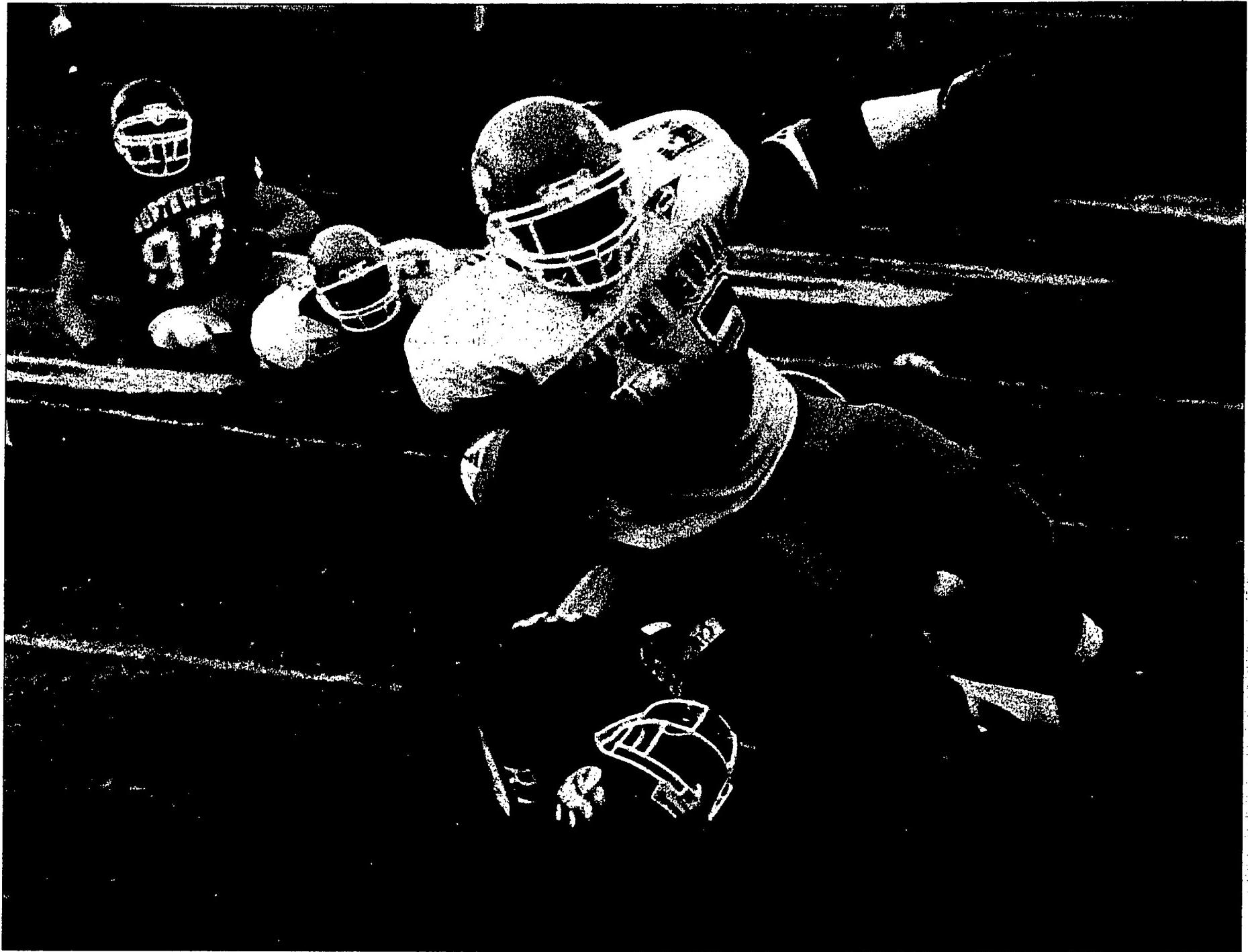


PHOTO BY JOHN PETROVIC

Redshirt freshman safety Ryan Miller tackles sophomore running back Antwon Oliver during the fourth quarter of the NCAA Division II national championship game against Carson-Newman College. Miller had a total of 13 tackles and one interception for seven yards. The

EAGLES TAKE CONTROL EARLY

Northwest opened the scoring with a 67-yard drive that was capped with an 18-yard run by junior running back Dave Jansen. But the Eagles owned the first half, scoring the next 24 points to take a 17-point halftime lead.

The key play of the half was an 86-yard punt return by Eagles senior wide receiver Ques Rumph. Rumph took the punt with a running start at the 14-yard line and cut to the sideline, before jumping past redshirt freshman linebacker Grant Sutton to score. The return broke the NCAA record for longest punt return for a score and gave the

Eagles their first lead of the game, 10-7.

At halftime, the Bearcats began to make adjustments.

"Offensively, I think after that first drive, we never had any rhythm on offense," Tjeerdsma said. "A lot of it was penalties. I don't know how many times we were first-and-15 or second-and-15 or second-and-12. It's tough to call plays. Like Coach (Jim) Svoboda said at halftime, 'Anybody have any suggestions for 3rd and 15?' Those are tough plays."

"So we came back in the second half and we got back to what we had gone with at the start and looked at the things

Bearcats pulled off one of the most amazing comebacks in all NCAA divisions, beating the Eagles, 58-52, in four overtimes. Northwest's game against Carson-Newman broke the NCAA championship game record for most overtimes.

that worked and said we're going to run the ball some."

The Bearcats opened the second half with an eight-play drive that ended when junior quarterback Travis Miles found senior wide receiver Seneca Holmes for a 20-yard touchdown pass.

After a three-and-out by the Northwest defense, the Bearcats got another chance to score, but the drive ended when Travis Miles threw his second of three interceptions. The turnover allowed the Eagles to add to their lead, but junior kicker Ryan Fleming missed the extra point. Thus the Eagles held a 30-14 lead, and the 'Cats were slowly

running out of time.

'CATS SCORE RECORD-BREAKING QUARTER

The wild fourth quarter began with a 35-yard drive that was set up when redshirt freshman safety Ryan Miller snagged an interception late in the third quarter. Travis Miles connected with Tony Miles for a 7-yard touchdown pass. Then junior tight end Steve Comer caught a pass from Travis Miles for a two-point conversion, making it 30-22.

The Eagles answered with a touchdown, but again Northwest refused to die. Tony Miles returned the ensuing

FOURTH QUARTER

12:44

Tony Miles catches 7 yard touchdown pass, Steve Comer catches pass for two point conversion, Northwest is down 22-20.

7:39

Leonard Guyton takes the ball on 10 yard touch down run, Eagles take 37-22 lead

7:25

Tony Miles returns kickoff 81 yards, Northwest trails 37-29.

3:34

Antwon Oliver runs for 12 yard touchdown Eagle lead 44-29

2:41

J.R. Hill catches 7 yard pass, closes gap, 44-36.

0:51

Antwon Oliver runs the ball out of bounds on fourth and 7, Northwest takes possession

0:10

J.R. Hill catches 34 yard pass, Ryan George snags pass for two point conversion, Northwest ties it up 44-44